

# STARS AND STRIPES<sup>®</sup>

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playing retro rock  
... no apologies**

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Justin Hawkins



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made lasting  
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TUESDAY, JUNE 29, 2004

# Iraqis now in charge

U.S. returns sovereignty 2 days ahead of schedule Pages 3-5, 18

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AP photos

Left: Iraqi President Ghazi Al-Yawer, left, is sworn into office in Baghdad on Monday as others, from left, Vice President Ibrahim Al-Jaafari, Prime Minister Iyad Allawi and Deputy Prime Minister Barham Salih, look on. Right: U.S. Administrator L. Paul Bremer bids farewell to Iraq from Baghdad International Airport. He was flying to an undisclosed location after attending a ceremony officially transferring sovereignty to the interim Iraqi government.

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## News Tracker ... What's new with old news

### States

**Medical marijuana:** The Supreme Court said Monday it will consider whether sick people who smoke pot on a doctor's orders are subject to a federal ban on marijuana.

The court agreed to hear the Bush administration's appeal of a case it lost last year involving two California women who say marijuana is the only drug that helps alleviate their chronic pain and other medical problems.

**Nader's campaign:** Independent presidential candidate Ralph Nader, working to get the 1,000 signatures needed to get on the Washington state ballot, told supporters Sunday the Democrats trying to get him out of the race are overlooking their own failures.

Jason Kafoury, one of Nader's national field coordinators, said volunteers had gathered more than 1,100 signatures for Nader in Washington and that more were to be gathered Sunday night. It was not clear how long it would take the Secretary of State's Office to determine whether Nader gets on the ballot.

**College bonfire memorial:** Most of the construction is finished on a \$5 million memorial to honor the 12 students who died during the 1999 collapse of the Texas A&M University bonfire.

While the structure has taken shape, completion is still months away. University officials said the memorial will be ready for its dedication this fall on the five-year anniversary of the collapse.

### Business

**United Airlines bankruptcy:** United Airlines on Monday lost a bid to secure a federal loan guarantee, a fresh setback to the carrier's efforts to emerge from bankruptcy. The federal panel, making the decision, also said it would not entertain any other attempts by the airline to secure government backing.

The Air Transportation Stabilization Board said that after studying the airline's latest application, submitted last week, it would not change the panel's June 17 decision to reject United's request for a \$1.6 billion federal loan guarantee.

**Adelphia execs' trial:** A federal court jury began deliberations Monday in the trial of four former Adelphia Communications Corp. executives accused of looting the cable television system operator.

Adelphia founder John Rigas, 79, his sons Timothy and Michael, and former assistant treasurer Michael Mulcahey each face 30 years in prison if convicted of the most serious charge, bank fraud. They are accused of hiding \$2 billion in debt from the company's investors.

**Microsoft in EU:** European regulators have agreed to temporarily hold off on forcing Microsoft Corp. to change its business practices until a court hearing later this summer, a company spokesman confirmed Sunday.

The decision by the European Commission, following its ruling in March that Microsoft broke European Union antitrust laws, was largely a formality. Microsoft,



**Bad weather:** Jim Sadoris, left, tries to keep the water flowing between houses in Littleton, Colo., on Sunday while Josh Herman takes a break. More than 3 inches of rain along Colorado's Rocky Mountain foothills flooded streets and basements, destroying at least one house. Several people needed to be rescued from rising water.

which is based in Redmond, Wash., is appealing the ruling, which levied a fine of more than \$600 million and would force the company to sell a version of Windows operating system without programs for playing digital video and music.

### World

**Subway strike:** Pay talks between London Underground and London's subway drivers broke down Monday, and union leaders said a planned one-day strike will go ahead.

The Rail, Maritime and Transport Union has said it will strike for 24 hours starting at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday if its demands over pay and conditions are not met.

**Pakistan leadership:** A military-backed plan to appoint international banker Shaikat Aziz as Pakistan's prime minister was well-received Monday by investors and financial markets, but political observers decried the move as another sign that democracy is far from Pakistan's reach.



Aziz

Aziz, a former finance minister, is an efficient manager expected to inspire the confidence of local and international investors. But some said his close ties to President Gen. Pervez Musharraf, who has pledged to restore full democracy in Pakistan, suggest that the military is reluctant to lose its grip on the country.

**N. Korea willing to meet:** North Korea's foreign minister said Monday he is willing to meet U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell on the sidelines of a regional forum.

"We have no plan to meet. But if they ask us to meet, we will meet," Foreign Minister Paek Nam Sun said after arriving in Jakarta ahead of a meeting of the 23-member ASEAN Regional Forum.

Paek did not comment on what he might discuss with Powell, who is expected to attend the forum Friday. Powell met Paek on the sidelines of the forum two years ago.

**Rockets from Gaza:** Palestinians fired a barrage of homemade rockets at an Israeli border town Monday, killing an Israeli man and a 3-year-old boy as youngsters arrived at nursery schools.

It marked the first time in nearly four years of fighting that Israelis were killed by rockets from Gaza, and harsh Israeli retaliation was expected.

In Gaza, four Palestinians were shot dead by Israeli troops overnight. Israeli troops destroyed 10 Palestinian homes near the outposts, and divided Gaza into three parts, preventing most travel on the main north-south road.

**Militant surrenders:** One of Saudi Arabia's most-wanted militants turned himself in Monday, a security official said, becoming the second militant to do so since King Fahd offered them temporary amnesty.

Othman Hadi Al Maqbul al-Amri, No. 21 on the list of 26 most-wanted militants issued by the Saudi Interior Ministry in December, surrendered near Halba bani Amir, 745 miles southwest of the capital, Riyadh, the security official said on condition of anonymity.

Last week, King Fahd promised to spare the lives of militants who surrendered within the next month. Those involved in attacks who turned themselves in still would face trial under the decree issued Wednesday, but the state would not seek their execution if convicted.

Stories and photos from wire services

## Messages of Support

★ To everyone fighting to keep our country free and safe - we look up to you, and pray for your safety daily. Our family and many others in our area are so proud of you all!!!!!! Our thoughts are continually on what is going on in the

war, and elsewhere where our soldiers have been sent. We feel for your families here at home, and cry along with them when a disaster does strike. Please, take to heart that there are many people here at home, in the U.S.A., praying for you, and for your safe

return. Most of all, because of you, we are forever PROUD TO BE AN AMERICAN!!!!!!  
!!!!!! God Bless You ALL, M. Brittain.  
Housewife and mother. Manassas, Virginia

# Iraq takes the reins — 2 days early

## Hoping to foil insurgents, U.S. hurries handover

BY TAREK EL-TABLAUWY

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — The U.S.-led coalition transferred sovereignty to an interim Iraqi government two days early Monday in a surprise move that apparently caught insurgents off guard, averting a feared campaign of attacks to sabotage the historic step toward self-rule.

Legal documents transferring sovereignty were handed over by U.S. governor L. Paul Bremer to chief justice Midhat al-Mahmoud in a small ceremony in the heavily guarded Green Zone. Bremer took charge in Iraq about a year ago.

"This is a historical day ... a day that all Iraqis have been looking forward to," said Iraqi President Ghazi Al-Yawer. "This is a day we are going to take our country back into the international forum."

Militants had conducted a campaign of car bombings, kidnappings and other violence that killed hundreds of Iraqis in recent weeks and was designed to disrupt the transfer, announced by the Bush administration late last year.

The response in Baghdad was mixed. "Iraqis are happy inside, but their happiness is marred by fear and melancholy," said artist Qasim al-Sabti.

Two hours after the ceremony, Bremer left Iraq on a U.S. Air Force C-130, said Robert Tappan, an official of the former coalition occupation authority.

The new interim government was sworn in six hours after the handover ceremony.

Interim Prime Minister Iyad Alawi delivered a sweeping speech



AP photos

U.S. Administrator L. Paul Bremer, right, hands over documents to Iraqi Chief Justice Midhat Al-Mahmoud, left, transferring national sovereignty to Iraq at a ceremony in Baghdad on Monday. Iraqi Prime Minister Iyad Alawi looks on.

sketching out some of his goals for the country, urging people not to be afraid of the "outlaws" fighting against "Islam and Muslims," assuring them that "God is with us."

"I warn the forces of terror once again," he said. "We will not forget who stood with us and against us in this crisis."

Members Allawi's Cabinet each stepped forward to place their right hand on the Quran and pledged to accept their new duties with sincerity and impartiality. Behind them, a bank of Iraqi flags lined the podium.

"Before us is a challenge and a burden and we ask God almighty to give us the patience and guide us to take this country whose people deserve all goodness," said

President Ghazi al-Yawer after taking his oath. "May God protect Iraq and its citizens."

Although Iraqis are now supposed to be in charge, American security officers prevented reporters from talking with willing Iraqi ministers after the swearing-in ceremony, hustling journalists away even after the new government officials had stopped to chat with them.

President Bush was briefed Sunday that the Allawi government was ready to take power early.

The early transfer had been under discussion between Allawi and U.S. officials for at least a week, a senior administration official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Although the interim government will have full sovereignty, it will operate under major restrictions — some of them imposed at the urging of the influential Shiite clergy, which sought to limit the powers of an unelected administration.

For example, the interim government will hold power only seven months until, as directed by a United Nations Security Council resolution, there must be elections "in no case later than" Jan. 31. The Americans still will hold responsibility for security. And the interim government will not be able to amend the interim constitution. That document outlines many civil liberties guarantees that would make problematic a declaration of emergency.

## Ambassador arrives

BAGHDAD — John Negroponte, the new U.S. ambassador to Iraq, arrived in Baghdad on Monday to take over political contact between Washington and the fledgling Iraqi interim government.

The former American envoy to the United Nations reached the Iraqi capital late Monday.

President Bush named Negroponte, 64, as ambassador to Iraq on April 19.

Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage said that with Iraqi sovereignty restored, the State Department would assume from the Pentagon the dominant role in shaping Bush administration policy on Iraq.

— The Associated Press

The Coalition Provisional Authority's laws remain in effect after the occupation ends unless rescinded or revised by the interim government, a task that a Bremer-signed law allows, but only after a difficult process.

The new government's major tasks will be to prepare for elections, handle the day-to-day running of the country and work along with the U.S.-led multinational force, which is responsible for security. The Iraqis can in principle ask the foreign troops to leave — although that is unlikely.

The handover ceremony took place in a formal room in the building formerly used by the Iraqi Governing Council.

Just before the handover, everyone stood up, and documents were passed to the chief justice at 10:26 a.m. local time — at that point, legal ceremony was passed.

Brig. Gen. Mark Kimmitt, the coalition deputy operations chief, was the only U.S. military official present.

"We'd like to express our thanks to the coalition," al-Yawer said. "There is no way to turn back now."

# Bush: 'The Iraqi people have their country back'

BY TERENCE HUNT

The Associated Press

ISTANBUL, Turkey — President Bush and British Prime Minister Tony Blair, the two determined architects of the war against Saddam Hussein, celebrated the early transfer of political power to Iraqis Monday. "The Iraqi people have their country back," Bush said.

In 15 months since Bush ordered the invasion of Iraq, more than 800 U.S. soldiers, more than 50 British soldiers and nearly 50 troops from other nations have been killed, and a surge of violence preceded the handover that was scheduled for Wednesday.

"They've all given their lives in the cause of trying to give a better and different future to the people of Iraq," Blair said.

Though Bush and Blair referred to the transfer as a handover of "full sovereignty," some 138,000 American troops remain in Iraq and the United States will have the main role in Iraqi security.

Blair called the accelerated transfer a landmark event, a day in which "democracy replaces dictatorship, in which freedom replaces repression, and in which all the people of Iraq can look forward to the possibility and the hope of an Iraq that genuinely guarantees a future for people from whatever part of Iraq they come."

Bush said: "We have kept our word" to deliver freedom and a new government to the Iraqi people.

The two leaders spoke a few hours after the U.S.-led coalition handed off power to the interim Iraqi government.

Bush and Blair acknowledged the ongoing attacks by rebels that have killed more people since major combat ended than during the war itself.

"Their brutal attacks have not prevented Iraqi sovereignty, and they will not prevent Iraqi democracy," Bush said.

The military situation is "tough, there's no doubt about it," Bush said, calling al-Qaida-linked militant Abu Musab al-Zarqawi a "brutal cold-blooded killer."

But, he said, "They can't whip our mili-



AP photos

Left: President Bush, left, looks down to read a note given to him by Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, center, as Secretary of State Colin Powell looks on Monday in Turkey. Right: After receiving the note, from National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice, the president wrote "Let Freedom Reign!" and handed it back.

taries."

"What they can do is get on your TV screens, stand in front of your TV cameras, and cut somebody's head off in order to try to cause us to cringe and retreat. That's their strongest weapon," Bush said.

"Prime Minister [Iyad] Alawi has said

many times he will not cower in the face of such brutal murder, and neither will we," Bush said.

"The Iraqi people need to hear, loud and clear, they'll have our friendship and our support, no matter how tough it gets," Bush promised.

# U.S. troops go on alert after early handover

## Most welcome surprise move to steal thunder from terrorists

BY CHARLIE COON  
AND JESSICA INIGO  
Stars and Stripes

BAHGDAD — Soldiers in downtown Baghdad said Monday they were surprised to learn the Iraqi handover came two days earlier than expected.

The soldiers, members of the Oregon Army National Guard, added that they hoped the surprise move derailed any terrorism plans being made by insurgents who oppose the new government.

"I thought it absolutely took the wind out of their sails," said Spc. Victor Zayas, Company C, 2nd Battalion, 162nd Infantry Regiment.

"I think they were trying to plan a big last stand or terror event and this just took it away from them."

The Coalition Provisional Au-

thority, which has been running Iraq since the 2003 overthrow of Saddam Hussein, had planned to hand over authority on Wednesday to Iraq's new provisional government.

But the CPA instead transferred power during a brief ceremony at 10:26 a.m. Monday at Prime Minister Iyad Allawi's office inside the heavily guarded Green Zone.

Soldiers guarding the Palestine and Sheraton hotels, where many foreign contractors and media are staying, noted that the handover did not mean a stop to business for the U.S. military.

"The handover is going to be slow," said Sgt. Eric Marsonette, 34, of Eugene, Ore. "If it happens too fast, it's going to be a shock to the [Iraqi] people. When the military puts out, that's going to be the hardest time for them."

The troops said they were pre-



Spc. Moises Becerra of Eugene, Ore., and Company C, 2nd Battalion, 162nd Infantry Regiment, keeps watch Monday from inside his turret atop a Humvee outside of the Palestine Hotel in downtown Baghdad. The handover of power to the new Iraqi government caused soldiers outside the hotel to be on high alert.

JESSICA INIGO/Stars and Stripes

### See related stories on Page 18

paring for increased violence on Wednesday when the handover was supposed to take place.

On Monday, they said they found out just 10 minutes before it occurred that the event was moved up.

People who were trying to get into the hotels on Monday were slowed by increased security measures. They were searched more

thoroughly than usual by soldiers and Iraqi security personnel and were asked what business they had at the hotels, according to Sgt. Brian Hambricht.

"During the handover and after the ceremony, I thought terrorists were going to do something," said Hambricht, 33, of Springfield, Ore. "We just made plans for chaos."

After the ceremony, the Coalition Provisional Authority ceased to exist, according to Shane Wolfe, spokesman for the U.S. Embassy in Iraq, formerly the CPA.

"They [CPA] were the authorized administration during the occupation," Wolfe said. "The oc-

cupation doesn't exist anymore, and the CPA ceased to exist after the handover was announced."

While most of the soldiers guarding the downtown hotels said they were anticipating trouble, one said he hoped the hype would not live up to expectations. "People have been expecting all hell to break loose, like when the year 2000 came," said Spc. Moises Becerra of Eugene, Ore. "But nothing happened then."

"We won't know until tomorrow, but we'll be prepared as always."

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# U.S. troops, citizens protected despite lack of SOFA

BY LISA BURGESS  
AND SANDRA JONTZ  
Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. — U.S. citizens in Iraq can't be prosecuted for crimes by the courts there until elections are held in January, according to agreements that spell out the transfer of authority to the new Iraqi interim government.

The agreements protect not just U.S. troops in Iraq, but U.S. civilians accompanying troops, and have been written with the "very unusual" provision that provides immunity for private contractors, said Michael Noone, a law professor at Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. Noone specializes in SOFAs and is a retired Air Force colonel who served as a Judge Advocate General officer.

Status of Forces Agreements, or SOFAs, spell out the precise legal status of military troops stationed in other nations, and their relationships to the host governments' civilian authorities.

Because Iraq does not yet have a government that is recognized by the United Nations as permanent, the U.S. government has been unable to negotiate the SOFA that usually governs laws, which affect U.S. military personnel on foreign soil.

Although there is no formal SOFA with

the Iraqi government, "a SOFA is not necessarily a document that's required" in order for U.S. troops to operate independent of a host nation and its legal system, Army Maj. Joseph Yowsa, a Pentagon spokesman, said Monday.

"There's other legal documents that allow us to operate" in the absence of a formal SOFA in Iraq, Yowsa said — four, to be precise.

In fact, the four documents pertaining to the transfer of authority are binding, Noone said.

The document that spells out the immunity in the most detail is a new version of the 17th order issued by the Coalition Provisional Authority.

The order was written by the CPA in 2003 to grant immunity "from Iraqi legal process" to all U.S. government personnel, as well as civilian and military personnel from coalition countries.

Such individuals are "subject to the exclusive jurisdiction" only of the country that sent them to Iraq, and are "immune from any form of arrest or detention other than by persons acting on behalf of their sending states."

Last week, U.S. civilian administrator L. Paul Bremer and Ayad Allawi, prime minister of the interim Iraqi government, worked on the order directing the interim Iraqi government.

The CPA was dissolved in the wake of Monday's handover, but the CPA order is still in effect, thanks to a second key immunity document: the Transitional Administrative Law.

Better known as Iraq's "interim constitution," the TAL includes a number of provisions, such as a bill of rights for the Iraqi people.

The law also contains an annex that prohibits the interim government from making any changes to either CPA orders or to the main Transitional Administrative Law.

There are also two United Nations Security Council Resolutions, U.N. 1546 and U.N. 1511, that spell out immunity for the U.S. troops.

Taken together, "these four standing documents allow us to continue to do our operations in lieu of a SOFA," Yowsa said.

The immunity from prosecution in local Iraqi courts remains intact until elections are held next year. A U.N. resolution dictates they must be upheld until Jan. 31, 2005.

"The CPA order says the transitional government cannot tamper with these arrangements as written, so servicemembers are protected until Iraq and a stable government. Troops' immunity from local law remains as long as the transitional government is in power," Noone said.

The documents also protect private contractors, Noone said.

"Typically, the protection [from local prosecution] does not extend to private contractors. The benefit to extending the protection is 'because the country is so unstable and ... they are recreating a legal system. Contractors otherwise might not be willing to send employees to a justice system that hasn't worked for years.'"

But there's a loophole, he said. "And that loophole may be that an American contractor could commit a crime overseas and the Iraqis couldn't prosecute because of these documents and American authorities couldn't prosecute. ... American law traditionally didn't travel overseas. If an American contractor in Germany shoots someone, it's up to German authorities to prosecute them. American murder laws didn't work overseas."

However, it is possible that contractors and other U.S. civilians could be prosecuted by U.S. authorities under provisions in the American Servicemember and Citizen Protection Act of 2003, passed to keep American citizens from being prosecuted under the International Criminal Court.

"It seems to be that what Congress intended to do, but it's a brand new law and we just don't know how it's going to work," Noone said.

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# Insurgents hold key to Iraqi sovereignty

BY ROBERT H. REID

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Regardless of U.N. Security Council resolutions and other legal documents, it is the insurgents who will determine how much genuine authority the newly sovereign Iraqi government will have as it begins the march to democratic rule.

Insurgents even influenced the pace of the transfer of sovereignty from the U.S.-run Coalition Provisional Authority to the newly sovereign Iraqi government, Minister Iyad Allawi. The handover had been expected Wednesday but was pushed forward two days — in large part to prevent the militants from disrupting the historic step.

No advance word about the change in handover plans was announced. Instead, journalists were summoned early Monday to what they were told was a short-notice press conference by the outgoing U.S. governor, L. Paul Bremer.

Only after journalists were ushered into a conference room and their mobile phones taken were they told what they were about to witness.

On paper, the hand-picked government is fully sovereign — albeit with major constraints. Some members were imposed by the Americans, who maintain primary security responsibility, to leave a Western in-

fluence on the new Iraq. Others were imposed at the insistence of the influential Shiite clergy which sought to limit the powers of an unelected government.

The new government's primary mission will be to organize elections by Jan. 31 so that it can go out of business. Still, the

## ANALYSIS

political boost for Iraqis, who have been increasingly frustrated by and hostile to foreign military occupation.

U.S. military officials believe the insurgents, most of them from the Sunni Muslim minority, are a loose amalgam of Iraqi nationalists, supporters of Saddam Hussein, Islamic fundamentalists and foreign zealots.

American officials hope that Iraqis will believe they are now in control of their country and that the insurgency will lose steam — despite continued presence of tens of thousands of U.S. and other foreign soldiers who are now a Multinational Force rather than occupation troops.

Everything, however, depends on security.

As the Iraqis and their international partners gradually restore law and order, the Americans can fade slowly into the background — removing their troops from the

streets and into heavily fortified camps. That would mean fewer U.S. casualties and fewer dire reports in the U.S. media as the November presidential election nears.

But if the Iraqis stumble, all that will change. Circumstances will force a continued strong American role — and with it constraints on sovereignty.

The U.N. resolution approved unanimously by the Security Council on June 8 gives the American-run multinational force authority "to take all necessary measures to contribute to the security and stability in Iraq."

U.S. military officials interpret this to mean they — and not the Iraqis — remain the final authority in security matters — including whether Allawi imposes some form of emergency rule in Iraq.

Continuing violence would force the Americans to step in more and more into Iraq affairs, effectively limiting the authority of the new government.

Iraqis will hardly believe they are in charge of their own country if they continue to see thousands of heavily armed Americans roaming their cities and towns. And that will continue to fuel resentment against a foreign presence and feed the insurgency.

Chances that the Iraqis themselves can cope with the security crisis aren't good — at least until the Americans and their partners can train and equip enough police, sol-

diers and national guardsmen. That could take several years.

For months, political operatives around Bremer, who departed Iraq soon after the transfer ceremony, boasted about the thousands of Iraqis who had stepped forward to defend their own country in the army and police. But large numbers of them melted away during the twin Shiite uprisings in the south and the Sunni revolt around Fallujah last April.

During the five-city insurgent offensive Thursday, poorly armed and poorly trained Iraqi fed police stood stations and government buildings in Baquba, Mosul and elsewhere. American troops backed by jets, tanks and Bradley Fighting Vehicles, had to recapture those facilities.

At recent car bombings and ambushes in Baghdad and other cities, young men routinely swarmed around the crime scene, looting and setting fire to vehicles while the Iraqi police stand idly by.

In April, the Americans approved formation of a volunteer force to take responsibility for security in Fallujah and end the bloody three-week siege by U.S. Marines. The move was touted by Bremer's aides and senior U.S. officials as a possible model for Iraq — "an Iraqi solution to an Iraqi problem."

The move proved to be a disaster. Fallujah fell into the hands of radical clerics, who may be harboring terrorist Abu Musab al-Zarqawi.

## Reaction is mixed to handover news

Allies hail move; Muslim nations skeptical

BY BETH GARDINER

The Associated Press

LONDON — Governments around the world welcomed Monday's surprise early handover of power in Iraq, but few expected it would quickly halt spiraling violence.

Both supporters and opponents of the U.S.-led war hailed the transfer of sovereignty as good news and said they wished the new interim Iraqi administration well in facing the major challenges ahead.

But in the Muslim world, many expressed skepticism about the handover.

"Occupation will wear a new dress," Syrian political analyst Hathim Kilani said.

Poland's deputy defense minister, Jacek Temko, told The Associated Press, "This is very good. Everything that accelerates the process of transfer of power to the Iraqis, that speeds up their taking of responsibility, is very good."

Poland was a strong supporter of the war, commanding a multinational stabilization force in the south-central part of Iraq.

"The transfer of sovereignty is a highly awaited and important event," Colonna said. "It's a step in the political process that continues up to 2005. Others must follow, and France expresses its wish for success to the interim government and the Iraqi people."

Germany, another staunch opponent of the war, said the change in timing did not matter much, but the fact of Iraqi control was crucial.

"We welcome the transfer of sovereignty that took place today," Foreign Minister spokesman Antje Leendertse said. "For Iraq, this is an important step on the road back into the community of independent nations."

The German government is ready "to work closely together with the new Iraqi government on the political and economic reconstruction of the country," Leendertse said.

Australian Prime Minister John Howard, a close U.S. ally who contributed troops to the coalition, congratulated Iraqi people "for the act of faith in a democratic future that is involved in this historic handover. They will need our help and our support for some time into the future."

Australia's 850 soldiers will stay unless the new government asks them to leave, Howard said, calling such a request "unthinkable."



John Howard

it win the support of the Iraqi people.

Japan, Denmark and the Philippines, which all strongly backed Washington on Iraq, also voiced their support.

The European Union said it was considering posting a special representative in Baghdad and would offer support to elections scheduled there early next year.

Indonesia, the world's most populous Muslim nation, said it was pleased by the handover but would wait to see how meaningful it was.

Others were more skeptical. Senior Syrian Information Ministry official Ahmad Haji Ali told Arab broadcaster Al-Jazeera that the Iraqi government should send away coalition forces and avoid U.S. influence.

"There will be great security problems as a result of the U.S. presence, and problems created by the Americans themselves," he said. "The government can make it if it adheres to its programs and ends the presence of the U.S. and other troops."

## Iraq reportedly to assume custody of Saddam next week

Former dictator's lawyer calls move illegal

BY FISNIK ABRASHI

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Coalition officials and the Iraqi government have agreed to transfer legal custody of Saddam Hussein in a week, a coalition official said Monday.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, made the remarks only hours after the U.S.-led coalition handed over power to an Iraqi interim government in a low-key ceremony in Baghdad. No further specifics on the timing were available.

The ousted Iraqi leader, however, will remain in the hands of U.S. troops, because Iraq does not have a prison secure enough to hold him, a U.S. official said last week, also speaking on condition of anonymity.

But the Jordanian lawyer claiming to represent Saddam said the ousted leader should be released because handing him over to Iraq's new government would violate international law.

Ziad al-Khasasneh, one of 20 Jordanian and foreign lawyers appointed by Saddam's wife, Sajida, said the United States has no legal basis to keep prisoners, including Saddam, now that it has transferred authority to an interim Iraqi government.

"International law dictates that in such a situation, the occupation authority must release all

prisoners of war — including Mr. President Saddam — and let them choose to leave to any country they wish to go to and under the protection of the occupying power and the United Nations," al-Khasasneh told The Associated Press on Monday.

"The United States would violate international law if it hand-

ed the president (Saddam) or other prisoners of war over to the interim Iraqi government."

Saddam was granted prisoner of war status after his capture.

Although he is alleged to have committed crimes against his own people, he has not been charged with any offense.

The Iraqi Special Tribunal, established six months ago, is expected to try Saddam for atrocities committed during his 23 years as president, including the deaths of some 300,000 people.

Al-Khasasneh said the defense team has enlisted another 1,500 lawyers from across the Arab world, Europe and the United States.



Saddam

# 1st AD troops killed in Iraq memorialized

BY JESSICA INIGO

Stars and Stripes

BAGHDAD — The 1st Armored Division memorialized nearly 100 task force troops who have died in Iraq during a ceremony at Freedom Rest on Sunday.

The resort-like rest and recuperation compound in Baghdad grew still as 1st AD soldiers somberly paid respect to their fallen brothers-in-arms.

A large wooden and brass plaque bears the names of the troops at the entrance of the marble and gold-plated hallways of one of the former officers clubs for Saddam Hussein's Republican Guard.

This is the second memorial ceremony Task Force 1st AD has done at Freedom Rest. The names of about 40 troops who were killed since April, when the division's stay in Iraq was extended, were added to the plaque listing the dead, according to Capt. Douglas W. Deucker, Task Force 1st AD spokesman.

"This gives us a chance to pay respect to those fallen soldiers... not everyone will be going home with us," said Pfc Jeffrey Sweeney, a member of the personal security de-

tail for the command of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Brigade Combat Team.

The majority of the task force is moving back to Germany after a 120-day extension. During that time, the 1st AD troops captured 269 insurgents and killed nearly 300 in four major attacks.

Sgt. 1st Class Benny Valdez and Spc. Romulo Escobedo, two Purple Heart recipients, unveiled the plaque during the ceremony.

As Sgt. Mark Satter, of Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, Division Artillery, read the names of the troops over the Toby Keith country-music song "American Soldier," those present reflected on the cost of soldiering.

Troops hung their heads in a moment of silence, then lined up quietly to salute or touch the plaque.

Maj. Gen. Martin Dempsey, 1st AD commanding general, said during the ceremony that the "iron soldiers" who gave their lives would never be forgotten by the division. A duplicate plaque will be put up at the division headquarters in Germany once the entire unit returns.

E-mail Jessica Inigo at: [inigoj@mail.strips.com](mailto:inigoj@mail.strips.com)



JESSICA INIGO/Stars and Stripes

**Sgt. 1st Class Benny Valdez, left, and Spc. Romulo Escobedo, two 1st Armored Division Purple Heart recipients, unveil a plaque honoring members of 1st AD task force killed in Iraq during a ceremony at Freedom Rest on Sunday. Nearly 100 names, about 40 of which died after the April extension of the division, are engraved on the plaque.**

## Militants threaten to decapitate Marine, Pakistani

Turkey vows it will not bow to terrorists holding Turkish hostages as it tries to balance U.S. alliance, national interest

BY CHRIS TOMLINSON

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Insurgents threatened to kill a U.S. Marine and a Pakistani driver they had kidnapped unless the United States releases all Iraqis in "occupation jails," according to a videotape aired on Arab television. Turkey rejected demands by militants holding three Turkish hostages in a separate standoff.

The family of U.S. Cpl. Wassef Ali Hassoun confirmed that he was the kidnapped American Marine who appeared in a videotape shown Sunday on the pan-Arab satellite news station Al-Jazeera.

The U.S. military said Hassoun, a Muslim of Lebanese descent assigned to the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force, "did not report for duty June 20 and was last seen June 19."

Hassoun had gone "on an unauthorized absence," said Brig. Gen. Mark Kimura, the coalition deputy operations chief, giving few details. "Based on his personal situation, there was reason to suspect that he was heading over to Lebanon."

Kimura said the military was investigating. "We're doing everything we need to be doing at this time to prepare for any future operations in regard to the young Marine," he said.

The kidnappers claimed to have infiltrated a Marine outpost, lured Hassoun outside and abducted him. Al-Jazeera said the militants demanded the release of all Iraqis "in occupation jails" or the hostage would be killed.

They identified themselves as part of "Islamic Response," the security wing of the "National Islamic Resistance — 1920 Revolution



**This image from a video broadcast by Al-Jazeera network Sunday shows a man identified on the video as Wassef Ali Hassoun, a U.S. Marine who Iraqi militants claim to have captured. The family of U.S. Cpl. Wassef Ali Hassoun confirmed he is the Marine on the tape.**

Brigades." The name refers to the uprising against the British after World War I.

The group, which has claimed responsibility for previous anti-American attacks, first surfaced in an Aug. 12 statement claiming the United States was hiding its costly toll in Iraq to help President Bush's election chances.

Hassoun's family in the Salt Lake City suburb of West Jordan asked people to join them in prayers.

Earlier Sunday, the Pakistani driver was shown on a tape broadcast by a different Arab television station, Al-Arabiya. The hostage displayed an identification card is-

sued by the U.S. firm KBR, a subsidiary of Halliburton.

Four masked men holding assault rifles across their chests said they would behead the Pakistani within three days unless Americans freed prisoners held at Abu Ghraib and three cities of central Iraq — Balad, Dujail and Samarra.

The gunmen said they captured the Pakistani near the U.S. base at Balad, 30 miles north of Baghdad. They did not say whether they were affiliated with any group. The hostage, who gave his name as Amjad, urged Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf to close the Pakistani Embassy in Iraq and to ban Pakistanis from coming to Iraq.

"I'm also Muslim, but despite this they didn't release me," he said, bowing his head. "They are going to cut the head of any person regardless of whether he is a Muslim or not."

Death threats against hostages as well as insurgent attacks on U.S. and Iraqi security forces accelerated ahead of Iraq's return to self-rule on Monday.

The transfer of sovereignty had been scheduled for Wednesday but the U.S.-led coalition speeded up the move by two days in an apparent bid to head off any attempts at sabotage.

U.S. officials believe the insurgency consists of several groups with different ideologies, among them Arab nationalists, former members of Saddam Hussein's Baath Party and Islamic extremists.

In Istanbul, Turkish Defense Minister Vecdi Gonul rejected demands by al-Zarqawi's group for Turkish companies to quit doing business with U.S. troops in Iraq to spare the lives of the three Turkish hostages.

"Turkey will not bow to pressure from terrorists," Gonul told the private CNN-Turk and TV8 television stations.

The demand was issued as Bush and other Western leaders gathered in Turkey for a NATO summit Monday. Turkey, the only Muslim nation in NATO, was put in a difficult position trying to balance alliance solidarity with national interests.

Meanwhile, the U.S. military said troops late Sunday detained a suspected member of former President Saddam Hussein's Fedayeen militia near Jalula, northwest of Baghdad. The man was also a suspected weapons smuggler, the statement said.

## U.S. death in Iraq

By The Associated Press

As of Friday, June 25, 848 U.S. servicemen have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq last year, according to the Defense Department. Of those, 627 died as a result of hostile action and 221 died of nonhostile causes. The department did not provide an update over the weekend.

The British military has reported 38 deaths; Italy, 18; Spain, eight; Bulgaria and Poland, six each; Ukraine, four; Slovakia three; Thailand, two; Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia and the Netherlands have reported one each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 710 U.S. servicemen have died — 518 as a result of hostile action and 192 of nonhostile causes, according to the military as of Friday.

The latest deaths reported by the military:

■ A U.S. soldier was killed Sunday in a rocket attack on a 1st Cavalry Division camp at the outskirts of Baghdad.

The latest identifications reported by the military:

■ No new identifications.



# War Is Tough on Families

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Marsha Evans  
President and CEO, American Red Cross  
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)



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*Together, we can save a life*

# 90 Spangdahlem families forced to move

## Air Force ends leases on 300 German homes

BY MARNI MCENTEE  
Stars and Stripes

SPANGDAHLEM AIR BASE, Germany — The Air Force has terminated its contracts on 300 government-leased housing units near Spangdahlem, forcing 90 military families to find new homes.

The 52nd Fighter Wing has leased 500 housing units in Herforst and Speicher since 1981, in complexes built especially for military families.

Many of those units, however, have not been renovated in years to meet Air Force standards, prompting the service to terminate the leases, wing commander Col. Stephen Mueller said.

As of January 2005, the wing will no longer lease 100 townhouse units in Herforst and about 200 duplex units in Speicher. Only 173 of the 300 units were occupied when the landlords were notified in February that the lease would be terminated, Mueller said.

"You're looking at 127 vacant units that the U.S. government and taxpayers were paying for, whether anyone was living there or not," Mueller said. It will cost more than \$1.6 million in rent and maintenance costs to continue the leases from March this year until January 2005, Mueller said.

In addition to the 300 government-leased houses, airmen rent 2,700 units off-base, Mueller said.



PHOTOS BY MARNI MCENTEE/Stars and Stripes

**Dozens of the government-leased housing units in Speicher, near Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany, are shuttered because families chose to live elsewhere. The Air Force has decided to cancel its lease on 300 units because they are not up to Air Force standards.**

The lease termination has caused some worry in the local communities, Speicher area mayor Rudolf Becker said Monday.

Landlords obviously will be losing rent and the city of Speicher, for example, already has lost about \$125,000 in utilities fees, he said.

Becker said he had hoped the landlords would renovate the units, but many are reluctant to invest any more money in them because they do not know how long the military community will be there.

Some of the units will be left vacant when families make their regular permanent-change-of-station moves. The Air

Force will pay all the moving expenses to on-base units or find houses in the villages around the fighter base for families leaving after August 2005.

Master Sgt. Philip Filosi, his wife Sara, and 5-year-old daughter Anya are one of those families. They live in a three-bedroom unit in Herforst and will move, at government expense, next month to a historic house with a nice yard nearby.

But Sara Filosi said they're moving reluctantly. Despite the bare-bones facades of the Herforst units, the American tenants form an important bond and Anya has a lot of friends in the neighborhood.



**Master Sgt. Phil Filosi and his wife, Sara, sit on the steps of their government-leased town house in Herforst, near Spangdahlem Air Base. The Filosis have to move because the Air Force has decided to cancel its lease.**

"I can see us coming back to visit with the families here," she said. "Hopefully, we'll find some new good neighbors and friends," she said.

The wing also is working with landlords to maintain separate leases for airmen who would PCS before July 2005 so they don't have to move twice in six months.

Initially, the government signed 10-year leases on the units. But in 2001, the Air Force switched to five-year leases, with a clause that allowed them to give one-year notice if the leases were terminated.

About that time, the Air Force and Department of Defense began analyzing military housing plans around the world.

"We looked at this, like any other large organization, and realized we needed to increase efficiency," Mueller said.

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Stars and Stripes reporter Terry Boyd speaks with Servicemembers from Triple Deuce at Firebase Purgatory.

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From left to right, Sgt. Wesley Parkhurst, Spec. Robert Isaacs, Terry Boyd, and Pfc. Michael Greenwood.



# Iraq, Bosnia dominate NATO summit

Leaders will increase help in fight against terror, but turn Bosnia peacekeeping over to EU

BY WARD SANDERSON

Stars and Stripes

ISTANBUL, Turkey — The North Atlantic Council decided on Monday it was "possible" for NATO to train Iraqi security forces, though it wasn't clear how or when, or even where.

More forcefully, the council used the Istanbul summit to announce it would significantly boost peacekeeping in Afghanistan.

Leaders of the 26 NATO member states also gave Bosnia-Herzegovina its expected aid, with NATO planning to turn peacekeeping there over to the European Union by year's end.

And the council said it would open a loose dialogue with willing countries of the Middle East, and vowed to beef up naval counterterrorism operations in the Mediterranean, with possible help from Russia and Ukraine.

The impression of the council's 14-page communiqué was one of resolve. After a year of diplomatic strains over the war in Iraq, NATO declared it was not only alive, but ready to kick.

"In facing the security threats and challenges of the 21st century, allies will stand together," Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer said. "NATO will remain the indispensable institution to defend our freedom and security."

The reality may be more nuanced.

The Iraq statement, announced just a few hours after a surprise handover of sovereignty to Iraqis from the U.S.-led coalition, won't necessarily result in NATO flag flying in Baghdad. But it does give momentum to NATO training locals, although possibly out of Iraq — a stipulation apparently demanded by some states loath to deploy inside a newborn nation prone to explosive tantrums.

"How all this training will work out, I do not know yet," de Hoop Scheffer said.



French President Jacques Chirac talks to the media at a press conference during a NATO summit in Istanbul, Turkey, on Monday. The organization agreed Monday that it was possible to help train Iraqi security forces, and to turn the Bosnia peacekeeping mission over to the European Union.

The council seemed clear on Afghanistan. It assigned a total of 10,000 troops to the International Security Assistance Force, which is now 6,500 strong, to secure the country's first free elections scheduled for September. The troops will establish four new provincial reconstruction teams complementing the one NATO now runs in Kunduz.

Britain, Norway, Finland and Germany will man the new PRTs, which will all be based in northern Afghanistan. The U.S.-led coalition currently maintains another 13 in the country.

The expansion means NATO is proceeding with plans for a counter-clockwise sweep across the desolate nation, and may soon move west — what one official called a "hub-and-spoke model."

En route to Kabul on his jet last week for inspections and briefings, the commanding general of NATO described just such a web progressing by late summer.

"Everything starts in Kabul," said Gen. James L. Jones, the supreme allied commander. "It's like tentacles going out."

Jones said he believed NATO expansion there would help stabilize Afghanistan.

"We're not out of the woods yet," he said. "But there's an energy there. Young people are going to school, boys and girls." Females were denied the right to education in the Taliban era.

In addition to reconstruction, NATO will establish a new rapid response team in Herat, where about 70 U.S. soldiers now man a PRT. A NATO official was unable

to say what relationship the NATO team would have with the U.S. mission.

The news will likely relieve troops there, who are also responsible for more perilous provinces nearby.

"It's the wild, wild West," Lt. Col. James Hand, commander of the U.S. team in Herat, said over the weekend. He complained of government corruption, drug production and possibly two Taliban training camps in remote parts of his area.

The council decided to increase the number of C-130 airlift planes for Afghanistan by six and the number of transport helicopters by 18. Afghanistan will also see six more attack helicopters.

The alliance's defense ministers also decided to pursue a

See related stories on Page 12

ground surveillance system similar to that of its Airborne Warning and Control System, or AWACS, platform. The alliance also announced a common interest in a theater missile shield and renewed commitment toward its NATO Response Force, an emergency army to deploy fast and light in times of crisis.

Though the council decided NATO will conclude operations in Bosnia, it will maintain its mission in Kosovo. When asked whether having Bosnian war crime suspects Radovan Karadzic and Ratko Mladic at large sabotages the mission's success, the senior official said the responsibility for their capture was that of local authorities, not NATO.

The secretary general later expressed a hope that they would still face justice.

"The people indicted for war crimes should be arrested," he said, "and they should go to The Hague."

Outside the locked-down summit compound, Istanbul was tense. The sky shuddered with F-15 fighters during Bush's weekend arrival. A NATO press officer said some Turks living "within shooting distance" of the summit were forced to temporarily leave their homes.

The security isn't surprising. According to news reports, some 40,000 protesters took to the streets over the weekend, some burning effigies of the U.S. president over their war in Iraq. Terrorists have also staged several attacks in Istanbul. A bomb hanging on an overpass hung with an anti-NATO slogan exploded Saturday. No one was hurt. On Thursday, a bomb aboard a bus killed four people and injured 21.

The security and the summit continue through Tuesday.

E-mail Ward Sanderson at: sanderson@mail.strips.com

## Protesters block train tracks, so Italian riders turn to buses

BY JASON CHUDY

Stars and Stripes

Italian railway officials have started buses for passengers on a portion of the trip between two southern Italian towns after protesters continued to block the train tracks Monday.

Local residents blocked train traffic at the station of Montecorvino, east of Salerno, Friday night to show their disapproval over the reopening of the nearby Paraguti dump, according to the state-run AGI news service.

Anyone wanting to take a train from Sicily or Reggio Calabria to Naples, or vice versa, will be bused about 10 miles between Salerno and Battipaglia. This is the main train line between the southern Italian bases of Naples and Sigonella.

The Web site for Trenitalia, Italy's na-

tional rail line, lists seven southbound and eight northbound trains from which passengers will be bused. It did not say if there would be an extra charge for the bus service. Some trains destined for Reggio Calabria from northern cities are being stopped in Rome.

An AGI article also recommends that anyone whose train travel passes Montecorvino to "avoid traveling by train whenever possible for the time being." So far, officials don't have an end date for the protest.

Additional ferries will be added to the Salerno to Reggio Calabria and Salerno to Messina (Sicily) routes.

Affected train lists are available at: <http://www.trenitalia.it>, but only in Italian.

E-mail Jason Chudy at: chudy@mail.strips.com

## Sigonella base gets new commander

BY JASON CHUDY

Stars and Stripes

The strategic "Hub of the Med" has a new boss.

Capt. Joe Stuyvesant replaced Capt. Timothy Davidson as commanding officer of Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sicily, Monday.

Stuyvesant's previous assignment was assistant chief of staff for readiness and training on the 3rd Fleet staff in San Diego.

Davidson leaves Sigonella after about three years in command and will become chief of staff for the Navy Warfare and Development command in Newport, R.I.

Sigonella is the primary military base for the U.S. 6th Fleet and supports NATO forces in the Mediter-

anean. It is the home base for a CH-53 Sea Stallion transport helicopter squadron and houses rotating squadrons of F-3 Orion patrol aircraft.

With deployed squadrons of Naval Reserve C-9 and C-130 aircraft, the base also provides logistic support throughout Europe and the Middle East. Aircraft transiting Sigonella have supported Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom as well as supporting various U.S. and NATO exercises and operations.

Because of its importance and location, Sigonella calls itself the "Hub of the Med." It is home to about 8,000 U.S. military personnel, Department of Defense civilians and family members.

E-mail Jason Chudy at: chudy@mail.strips.com



Davidson



Stuyvesant

# Navy ends search for Marine missing off Azores

By SCOTT SCHONAUER

Stars and Stripes

NAVAL STATION ROTA, Spain — The Navy called off its search for a missing Marine pilot, whose F/A-18 Hornet fighter jet crashed into the eastern Atlantic Ocean this past weekend.

Capt. Franklin R. Hooks II, 32 of Pasco, Fla., was killed while conducting a routine training mission from the USS Harry S. Truman near the Azores islands on Saturday, according to a Navy news release.

Search and rescue teams stopped looking for Hooks on Sunday night around 8:45 p.m. European Central Time, said Senior Chief Petty Officer Scott Fleming, a spokesman for the 6th Fleet.

Crews riding in inflatable boats in addition to sailors aboard the carrier and other ships nearby scanned a 250-square-mile area, looking for any sign of the aviator. They found the wreckage, but could not find Hooks.

The Navy began looking for the pilot

early Saturday morning when the plane disappeared from radar and was declared missing.

An investigation board is trying to determine what caused the plane to go down.

The fighter jet was one of 11 planes assigned to the Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, S.C.-based Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 115, known as VMFA 115 for short.

The unit is nicknamed the "Silver Eagles."

The squadron deployed with the Norfolk, Va.-based Truman earlier this month.

The carrier and its strike group are in the eastern Atlantic as part of this summer's massive "Summer Pulse '04" exercise.

Seven aircraft carrier strike groups deployed across the globe to five different areas to test how rapidly the fleet could respond to an emergency or crisis.

The exercise wraps up next month.

E-mail Scott Schonauer at:  
schonauers@mail.estripes.osd.mil

## Water shut off

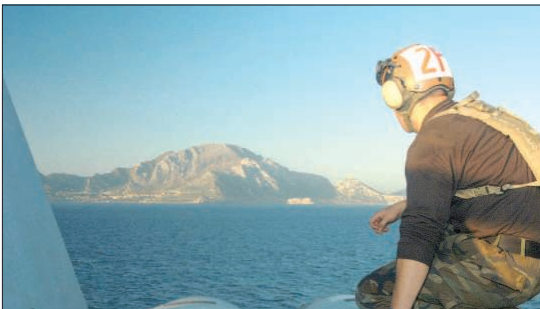
Residents of the Italian towns of Gaeta and Formia will not have potable water starting at 10 p.m. Tuesday until after 6 a.m. Wednesday.

According to an e-mail from the Naval Support Activity Gaeta public affairs office, the company that provides water to the two towns will suspend chlorination to the town's aqueduct as it tests new equipment.

Gaeta is home to the U.S. 6th Fleet, USS La Salle and naval support activity.

Many Americans working there live in town or in Formia.

From staff reports



## Seeing the world

Seaman Jorge L. Jaramillo, a plane captain with Strike Fighter Squadron 34, looks out over the coast of northern Africa from the flight deck of the USS John F. Kennedy as the carrier passes through the Strait of Gibraltar. The carrier is in the Mediterranean as part of Summer Pulse '04, the simultaneous deployment of seven aircraft carrier strike groups to demonstrate the Navy's ability to provide combat forces across the globe. The ship and its approximately 5,000 crewmembers are currently making a port call in Malta, the crew's first stop since the carrier left its home port in Florida on June 7.

MONICA R. NELSON/Courtesy of U.S. Navy

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Photo by Anas Dulami/Stars and Stripes

## IN THE STATES

# Detainees may challenge their treatment

## Supreme Court also says Padilla improperly named Rumsfeld, must refile case

BY ANNE GEARAN

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court dealt a setback to the Bush administration's war against terrorism Monday, ruling that both U.S. citizens and foreign nationals seized as potential terrorists can challenge their treatment in U.S. courts.

The court refused to endorse a central claim of the White House since the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11 2001: That the government has authority to seize and detain suspected terrorists or their protectors and indefinitely deny access to courts or lawyers while interrogating them.

The court did back the administration in one important respect, ruling that Congress gave President Bush the authority to seize and hold a U.S. citizen, in this case Louisiana-born Yaser Esam Hamdi, as an alleged enemy combatant.

That bright spot for the administration almost was eclipsed, however, by the court's ruling that Hamdi can use American courts to argue that he is being held illegally. Foreign-born men held at a Navy prison camp at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, also can have their day in U.S. courts, the justices said.

Ruling in the Hamdi case, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor said the court has "made clear that a state of war is not a blank check for the president when it comes to the rights of the nation's citizens."

Hamdi and most of the Guantanamo detainees were picked up in antiterrorism sweeps in Afghanistan in the weeks after the attacks more than 2½ years ago. They have been held without access to much of the outside world since then.

Hamdi and a few of the Guantanamo detainees have only recently been allowed to see lawyers, and none of them has been able to see family members or other visitors.

Steven R. Shapiro, legal director of the ACLU, called the rulings "a strong repudiation



**Alleged Taliban and al-Qaida detainees sit in a holding area at Camp X-Ray at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, during in-processing to the temporary detention facility in 2002. The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday has ruled that detainees in Guantanamo Bay may file suit in American courts to challenge their captivity.**

of the administration's argument that its actions in the war on terrorism are beyond the rule of law and unreviewable by American courts."

The court sidestepped a third major terrorism case, ruling that a lawsuit filed on behalf of detainee Jose Padilla improperly named Defense Secretary Donald Rums-

feld instead of the much lower-level military officer in charge of the Navy brig in South Carolina where Padilla has been held for more than two years.

Padilla must refile a lawsuit challenging his detention in a lower court.

The court left hard questions unanswered in all three cases.

The administration had fought any suggestion that Hamdi or another U.S.-born terrorism suspect could go to court, saying that such a legal fight posed a threat to the president's power to wage war as he sees fit.

"We have no reason to doubt that courts, faced with these sensitive matters, will pay proper heed both to the matters of national security that might arise in an individual case and to the constitutional limitations safeguarding essential liberties that remain vibrant even in times of security concerns," O'Connor wrote in the Hamdi case.

O'Connor said that Hamdi "unquestionably has the right to access to courts." The court threw out a lower court ruling that supported the government's position fully, and Hamdi's case now returns to a lower court.

O'Connor was joined by Chief Justice William Rehnquist and Justices Anthony Kennedy and Stephen Breyer in her view that Congress had authorized detentions such as Hamdi's in what she called very limited circumstances.

Congress voted shortly after the Sept. 11 attacks to give the president significant authority to pursue terrorists, but Hamdi's lawyers said that authority did not extend to the indefinite detention of an American citizen without charges or trial.

Two other justices, David Souter and Ruth Bader Ginsburg, would have gone further and declared Hamdi's detention improper.

Still, they joined O'Connor and the others to say that Hamdi, and by extension others who may be in his position, are entitled to their day in court.

Hamdi and Padilla are in military custody at a Navy brig in South Carolina. They have been interrogated repeatedly without lawyers present.

The high court's ruling applies only to Guantanamo detainees, although the United States holds foreign prisoners elsewhere.

# Mass. Gov. Romney crosses picket line to address Conference of Mayors

BY JENNIFER PETER

The Associated Press

BOSTON — Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney replaced Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry as a speaker for the nation's mayors on Monday after Kerry canceled a speech rather than cross a police union picket line.

Romney, a Republican, met nearly 100 picketing police officers before entering the front door of the hotel where the U.S. Conference of Mayors convened. A few of the protesters shouted taunts at the governor. The Boston Police Patrolmen's Association has been working without a contract for two years.

An ally of President Bush, Romney has campaigned in recent weeks for the president's re-election but has stayed out of the dispute between the police union and Boston Mayor Thomas Menino, a Democrat. The governor said he would speak to the group as a show of support for Menino.

"A mayor, a governor and a president have a responsibility for making tough decisions and balancing budgets. Senators don't," Romney said. "You also want to support labor and the efforts of labor ... but our first responsibility is to the people."

Menino had urged Kerry to attend the confer-

ence, which he called "an important event for urban America," and contended the police union's demonstrations did not constitute a legitimate picket line.

However, Kerry said Sunday night: "I don't cross picket lines. I never have."

Menino said the unions are undermining Kerry and that he was disappointed with Kerry's decision. "I would think that he would come and talk to the mayors who are making a difference in America every day, who are on the front lines of the issues that face working people," Menino said.

Unions for police, firefighters and other city employees have been demonstrating throughout the mayor's meeting, seeking to shame Menino into settling their disputes.

Major protests at some convention events, but police union spokesman Jim Barry said the union would not picket Kerry during the conference.

More than 200 mayors are attending the meeting of the conference, a nonpartisan organization that brings together mayors from cities with populations of more than 30,000 people.



Kerry



**Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney arrives at the Sheraton Boston Hotel to address the U.S. Conference of Mayors on Monday. Romney crossed a picket line of Boston police officers, which Democratic presidential hopeful U.S. Sen. John Kerry, who was scheduled to address the mayors, refused to cross.**

## Truckers launch boycott

NEW ORLEANS — Upset over wages, fuel costs and anti-union laws, about 30 independent truckers launched a boycott of the Port of New Orleans on Monday.

Nationwide independent truckers, who get paid by the load, have called for a strike from Monday to Sunday that could slow down the movement of cargo at ports. It was unclear how many were taking part nationally.

Some New Orleans terminals reported slower-than-normal business, but it was too early to tell if the boycott was responsible, said David Wagner, the port's chief operating officer.

At the Port of Boston, two or three independent truckers stood across the street from the entrance of the Container terminal, said Massachusetts Port Authority spokeswoman

Georgette Tacelli. Truckers are upset over increasing costs and low wages. But they also want to be able to form unions and collectively bargain for better contracts with shipping and trucking companies that hire them out.

From The Associated Press

## IN THE WORLD

# Bosnians welcome NATO handover to EU as positive sign

BY AIDA CERKEZ-ROBINSON  
The Associated Press

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina — Bosnians on Monday welcomed NATO's decision to hand peacekeeping efforts over to the European Union as a sign that life in the Balkan country is returning to normal.

NATO announced in a summit in Istanbul, Turkey, that it would formally retire from nine years of peacekeeping in Bosnia at the end of this year.

"I hope that soon there will be no need for anybody to keep the peace in Bosnia and that foreigners will start coming here as guests and tourists and not as peacekeepers," said Mira Novakovic, a 42-year-old Serb office worker from Banja Luka.

NATO will hand over its 7,500-strong mission to the EU, which will be the union's most ambitious military operation to date. A small NATO presence will remain in the country to help with defense reforms, fight terrorism and keep up the hunt for war crimes suspects.

"NATO's long-term political commitment to Bosnia and Herze-

govina remains unchanged and the establishment of a NATO headquarters will constitute NATO's residual military presence in the country," the alliance said in a communique.

The first NATO force deployed some 60,000 soldiers in Bosnia in 1995 after the end of a 3½ year war among the country's three ethnic groups — Muslims, Serbs and Croats.

Gradually, the number of soldiers decreased as the security situation improved.

In the last few years, the NATO-led Stabilization Force, SFOR, increasingly turned to mediating and supervising military matters.

NATO recently was successful in getting all three ethnic groups to agree to joint forces in a multi-ethnic army.

The alliance has been able to capture several lower ranked war crimes suspects sought by the U.N. war crimes tribunal in The Hague, Netherlands, but it has failed repeatedly to find Radovan Karadzic, the fugitive Bosnian Serb wartime leader sought by the tribunal for alleged genocide.

Muslim Almir Brkic, said that

## Anti-NATO demonstration in Turkey



A masked Turkish anti-NATO activist walks in front of a burning barricade during a demonstration in Istanbul, Turkey, on Monday.

although NATO was the most important foreign organization in Bosnia after the war, "in recent years, I hardly noticed their presence."

"Nobody here thinks about fighting again. People are focused on jobs and money. That's kind of normal, right?" asked Brkic, 36.

EU mission spokesman Frane Marojevic said the transfer of authority is expected to be relatively smooth, since most of the troops now in the NATO force come from EU countries.

Bosnia's top international official, Paddy Ashdown, also welcomed NATO's decision.

The alliance "has completed its mission to help stabilize Bosnia following the tragic conflict of the 1990s and is now departing," he said in a statement. "This is a remarkable achievement."

# Bush takes advantage of photo ops

BY DEB RIECHMANN  
The Associated Press

ISTANBUL, Turkey — With smiling allies at his side, President Bush has sailed through June with splashy photo opportunities to answer charges that he follows a lone-man approach to foreign policy that alienates America's friends.

The polls show Bush is unpopular overseas, but the pictures tell another story.

Bush has teamed up with world leaders from D-Day ceremonies

in France to the Group of Eight summit to a U.S.-European Union summit in Ireland to the NATO summit here in Turkey.

Each click of the shutter captures the president smoothing relations with allies. Some "photo ops" amount to public makeup sessions with friends who have not seen eye-to-eye with Bush on policy in Iraq. But each image can help counter complaints that America has not been served well by Bush's no-nonsense style on the world stage.

U.S. presidential challenger

John Kerry says that for all of Bush's tough talk on Iraq, his policies have put U.S. security and credibility at risk.

The White House rebuts the allegations, saying that rough relations with some U.S. allies in the early days of the Iraq war were blown out of proportion. U.S. government officials, who frequently note that 16 of 26 NATO nations are helping in Iraq and Afghanistan, say America and its allies now agree that a peaceful, democratic Iraq is in the best interest of all.

## Serbian president elected

BELGRADE, Serbia-Montenegro — With a pro-Western political finally at its helm, this weekend's presidential election, Serbia can no longer drag its feet when it comes to cooperating with the U.N. war crimes tribunal, a top official said Monday.

"We will have made a move soon, in a day or two even," said Vuk Draskovic, foreign minister of Serbia-Montenegro. "There are no more excuses for Serbia not fulfilling its international obligations."

Draskovic spoke after reformist Boris Tadic —

who is pledging to take Serbia closer to the European Union and NATO — triumphed in the runoff presidential election, beating a nationalist ally of former president Slobodan Milosevic.

Tadic's victory presents a major boost for the Balkan republic's pro-Western camp, which ousted Milosevic in 2000 and handed him over to the Netherlands-based tribunal, but has failed to fully silence his nationalist allies.

Tadic, 46, won 53.5 percent of votes in the Sunday ballot while Tomislav Nikolic of the ultranationalist Serbian Radical Party won 45.1 percent.

From The Associated Press

Stars and Stripes

## Messages of Support

★ There are no words that can fully express the gratitude I feel for all of you for defending our rights and freedom. It's amazing to me because I don't know you and you don't know me but I feel an overwhelming sense of pride and love in my heart for all of you for what you are doing for our country. Know that America supports you and we pray for you and your families daily. Thank you again for defending our country. You're all heroes. G. Behrens

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# EU taps Portugal prime minister as chief

BY ROBERT WIELAARD

The Associated Press

BRUSSELS, Belgium — The European Union on Monday hailed Portuguese Prime Minister Jose Manuel Durao Barroso as a man committed to European integration, saying his nomination to become the next European Commission president will help heal a rift among European leaders.

Current commission president

Romano Prodi of Italy said in a statement that Durao Barroso's nomination "recognizes Portugal's constructive participation in the European integration process and... sends a signal of the European Union's restored unity."

Durao Barroso, speaking Monday at a news conference at the NATO summit in Istanbul, Turkey, said he was considering the invitation to serve as commission president, the EU's powerful executive arm.

He said he would announce his decision after returning to Portugal later Monday to meet with his country's president and government.

Earlier, EU spokesman Reijo Keppinen said Durao Barroso "has a very strong European vocation" and is keen to lead EU efforts to forge greater political and economic integration among the bloc's 25 members.

Durao Barroso, 48, has led a conservative coalition government in Portugal since 2002, and emerged Sunday as the most acceptable candidate for the commission presidency.

Irish Prime Minister Bertie Ahern, whose country holds the EU presidency, spent weeks searching for a candidate, an activity-filled affair in which EU leaders played their divisions of the Iraq war.

But Ahern said Sunday in Ireland that Durao Barroso had "overwhelming support" in European capitals. EU leaders are to gather in Brussels on Tuesday to seal Durao Barroso's appointment, ending weeks of discord over who should succeed Prodi.

A leading candidate from the outset was Belgian Prime Minister Guy Verhofstadt. But his candidacy collapsed at a June 17-18 EU summit in Brussels when European countries that supported the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq, like Britain and Italy, rejected Verhofstadt, who stood with France and Germany in opposition to the war. EU leaders spent the remainder of the summit haggling over eight other candidates before Ahern, the summit chairman, cut



Portugal's Prime Minister Jose Manuel Barroso arrives at the opening session of a NATO summit in Istanbul, Turkey, Monday. Barroso has been nominated to be the new European Commission president.

short the debate to begin fresh consultations, which led the Irish prime minister to Barroso.

Candidates for commission president do not declare their presidency, and selecting someone to fill the EU's top job is done through discreet lobbying in European capitals.

Desired qualities include the

ability to run the EU's day-to-day affairs, represent the EU in foreign capitals, notably Washington, and use the office to deliver a "big picture" direction for the bloc.

This is a daunting task at a time when the union is widely seen as losing credibility on the streets of Europe.

Continent-wide elections for the European Parliament earlier this month were marked by a record low turnout of 45.5 percent and gains for fringe parties hostile to deeper European integration.

Center-right parties, including Durao Barroso's Social Democratic Party, won the largest block of seats, taking 276 of the 737 seats. The socialists won 201 seats, the Liberals 66 and the Greens 42.

The European Commission runs the EU's day-to-day affairs. It drafts EU law, ensures it is enacted in each of the 25 member states, represents the union in world trade and other negotiations and presents the image of the EU to the world.

But Durao Barroso has drawn criticism at home for siding with the United States and Britain, rather than EU giants France and Germany over the Iraq war.

He has hosted a U.S. war summit during the build up to that war and recently refused opposition demands to withdraw 120 Portuguese soldiers deployed in Iraq. "Europe should be a partner for the United States, not a counterweight, and vice versa," he has said.

## Cents and Sensibility Money tip of the day Census budget woes

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Budget uncertainty has forced the Census Bureau to delay plans to expand an annual survey being tested to eliminate the need for the census "long form" now mailed to millions of homes at the start of each decade.

The "American Community Survey" was supposed to be expanded to 250,000 households a month starting next week. It currently is mailed to about 68,000 homes monthly.

House appropriators negotiating the budget for the fiscal year starting in October have earmarked only about \$146 million for the project, roughly \$19 mil-

lion less than what the Bush administration requested, census officials said Friday.

While budget talks aren't over, that development was enough for bureau director Louis Kincannon to put on hold the expansion of the survey until at least November.

The extra money would have been used to hire and train about 2,800 workers, mainly part time, to handle the additional surveys, Kincannon said. Tight federal budgets have delayed the bureau's plans several other times in recent years. Kincannon says the latest delay hasn't changed the overall goal of eliminating the long form by 2010.

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**Messages of Support**

★ Dear Kevin, I'm thinking about you everyday and pray you'll be back very soon. I miss talking to you and hope I see you soon after you return. I want to see more than a picture! I have your letters and picture in my jewelry box and read them almost everyday! Be careful, take care, I MISS YOU!!!!!! Love, Lisa

P.S. HOOOOOOORRRR!!!!

★ May this war be swift and mighty. We are praying for all the and support. Keep holding on tight... God bless America. B. Creelman

**EXCHANGE RATES**

Military rates	
British pound	\$1.2529
Japanese yen (June 29)	\$1.08
S. Korean won (June 29)	1,115.00

Commercial rates	
Baharin (Dinar)	0.377
British pound	\$1.8265
Canada (Dollar)	1.3467
Denmark (Krone)	6.8844
Egypt (Pound)	6.194
Hong Kong (Dollar)	\$1.2164
Hungary (Forint)	208.77
India (Rupee)	77.15
Israel (Shekel)	4.9205
Japan (Yen)	107.75
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2647
Norway (Krone)	6.7994
Philippines (Peso)	56.12
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7590
Singapore (Dollar)	1.7074
S. Korea (Won)	1,151.50
Switzerland (Franc)	1.2669
Thailand (Baht)	48.75
Turkey (Lira)	1,457.00

(Military exchange rates are those payable to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For non-currency exchange banking facilities, Commercial rates are inter-bank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are for U.S. dollars to pound, dollar for the British pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

**PRECIOUS METALS**

London close	
Gold	\$420.20
Silver	\$6.10

**INTEREST RATES**

Prime rate	4.00
Discount rate	2.00
Federal funds market rate	1.00
3-month bill	1.35
30-year bond	5.38

Sources: The Associated Press, Bank of America, Bloomberg.com

**Italy's new teen rules**

ROME — Few sightings are more unsettling here than a teen motorist zooming at you with a braces-bearing grin and no driver's license in his pocket. But to the relief of pedestrians, the long-practice of allowing kids as young as 14 to cruise without a permit is ending this week.

The change — which will let teens drive mopeds and tiny cars only if they have a special license — is part of new road rules that finally tackle the grandprix mentality of Italian drivers when they start their engines.

"Speaking as a citizen and as a father, I believe this thing is positive because it will save many lives," said off-duty police officer Antonio Cerruti. "However, it's worth noting that it depends a lot on the kid there's the crazy reckless type that doesn't care about the rules and then there's the type that really pays attention."

With no training and no license, kids age 14 and up have been allowed to drive small-engine motor scooters and "mimics," which are tiny two-seat automobiles with moped engines. As of Thursday, they are required to possess a "patenting" "little license" — after a course and a multiple-choice test.

Most agree stricter rules make sense, but the chancerverse is causing havoc.

From The Associated Press



## OPINION

## Iraq questions cause Bush numbers to slip

BY RICK MERCIER

The Fredericksburg (Va.) Free Lance-Star

Before President Bush's Mesopotamian adventure, TomPaine.com produced an advertisement showing Osama bin Laden pointing at the reader, à la Uncle Sam, and exclaiming, "I want you to invade Iraq."

As aptprop, it was brilliant, as an implicit commentary on the probable effects of an Iraq invasion, it wasn't so bad, either.

With about four months to go until Election Day, I'm hoping that TomPaine.com and other wisecracks will put out an ad with the same image of bin Laden, but with the request, "I want you to vote for Bush."

It's not hard to imagine bin Laden, tucked away in some remote tribal village along the Afghan-Pakistani border, chucking to himself and mockingly chanting: "Four more years, four more years." Bush has done a stunning job of playing into al-Qaida's hands; bin Laden could not have planned Bush's response to Sept. 11 any better than he could have planned the abominable acts of that day.

That's essentially the argument made by a senior U.S. intelligence official, identified by the London [newspaper the] Guardian as "centrally involved in the hunt for bin Laden," in a soon-to-be-published book titled "Imperial Hubris: Why the West is Losing the War on Terror."

Written anonymously — because its author is still serving in an unnamed agency as a counterterrorism analyst — the book may represent what many career intelligence officials inside Washington's permanent government are thinking. Terrorism expert Peter Bergen, who has written two books on bin Laden and al-Qaida, told the Guardian that "Imperial Hubris" presents "an amped-up version of what is emerging as the consensus among intelligence counter-terrorist professionals."

According to the Guardian, "Imperial Hubris" characterizes the Iraq invasion as "an

avaricious, premeditated, unprovoked war against a foe who posed no immediate threat but whose defeat did offer economic advantage."

"Our choice of timing, moreover, shows an abject, even willful failure to recognize the ideological power, lethality and growth potential of the threat personified by bin Laden, as well as the impetus that threat has been given by the U.S.-led invasion and occupation of Muslim Iraq."

The author of "Imperial Hubris" believes bin Laden may well be planning a catastrophic attack on the United States before November — with the intention of getting Americans to rally around Bush and carry him to victory.

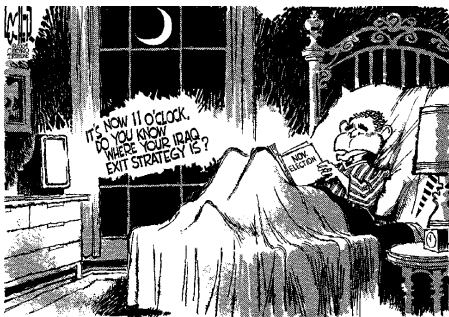
"I'm very sure they [al-Qaida] can't have a better administration for them than the one they have now," "Anonymous" told the Guardian.

A less "amped-up," but no less politically potent, critique of Bush emerged [this month] from a bipartisan group of 27 former diplomats and military commanders who have launched an unprecedented campaign to persuade Americans that "a whole new team is needed to repair the damage" caused by Bush and his neoconservative brain trust.

The White House has tried to dismiss the former high-ranking officials as partisan hacks, but that's yet another administration distortion. Many of those in Diplomats & Military Commanders for Change served Republican presidents, including Bush's father. Some of the ex-officials even voted for Bush in 2000.

Says retired Air Force Gen. Merrill McPeak, a member of the group who is advising John Kerry but was the Oregon chairman for Dole campaign in 1996 and a Veteran for Bush in 2000, "I don't think that this accusation of politics on my part will wash. It's just this administration has gone away from me, not vice versa."

The Iraq debacle is "the worst reverse we've had on the international scene, and it



simply has to be laid at the feet of the president," says McPeak, who served as Air Force chief of staff under the first President Bush and commander in chief of Pacific air forces under President Reagan.

Americans are starting to understand this line of critique. A recent poll by the Pew Research Center for the People and the Press found that Americans have become "considerably more negative" about how they view the war in Iraq in relation to the war on terrorism.

In the poll, 43 percent of Americans say the Iraq war has helped the war on terrorism, while 44 percent believe it has hindered it.

About a year ago, 65 percent felt the Iraq invasion had helped the war on terrorism, Pew notes.

Meanwhile, the latest Washington Post-ABC poll shows that only half the coun-

try approves of how Bush is waging the war on terrorism.

That's down 13 points since April. In addition, Bush has lost his commanding lead over Kerry as the candidate people trust to confront the terrorist threat, according to the poll.

The poll also found that 3 in 4 Americans now believe the Iraq war has damaged the image of the United States throughout the world, while a majority think the war has not boosted prospects for long-term peace and stability in the Middle East.

If the public-opinion trends indicated by these figures persist, Bush is in big trouble. But the wild card is bin Laden. If the terrorist mastermind has a bloody October surprise up his sleeve, our misleader may be rewarded with another four years to undermine our security.

Rick Mercier is a writer and editor for The Free Lance-Star.

## Data on snowmobile harm as reliable as Old Faithful

The (Baltimore) Sun

Fear of exploitation and degradation is what inspired Congress in 1872 to set aside 2.2 million acres in three states to preserve the unique volcanic region known as Yellowstone as the world's first national park.

President Ulysses S. Grant signed the measure, declaring that the sense area, with its roaring geysers and bubbling mud would forever be set apart "for the benefit and enjoyment of the people."

But modern-day lawmakers have joined President Bush in turning that guarantee on its head. They are favoring use of the park by snowmobilers over the interests of all other visitors, and putting a higher priority on economic than on environmental concerns.

Sadly, the short shrift given to Yellowstone, that grand old patriarch of parks, is symptomatic of a neglectful policy being applied to our national treasures across the board. At a time of war and tax cuts and huge deficits, something has to give. And under a spending bill recently approved by the House, a big loss is clearly the nation's parks, already woefully underfunded for repair and maintenance.

Tight money doesn't excuse the refusal to stem the damage done by snowmobilers in Yellowstone, though. In fact, the National Park Service has been required to divert millions of scarce dollars into repeated studies of their impact — and will have to

spend millions more trying to manage snowmobilers unless their access to the park is cut off.

Those studies have consistently shown that snowmobiles cause noise and air pollution that fouls the atmosphere, harms the wildlife and destroys the natural serenity that Grant and his contemporaries had intended to preserve for generations without end.

At the urging of the Park Service, former President Clinton ordered in 2000 that snowmobile use in Yellowstone and nearby Grand Teton National Park be phased

out. But the snowmobile industry howled, and Bush reversed the order when he took office the following year. The battle moved to the federal courts, where it has resulted so far in conflicting decisions.

An attempt in Congress to legislate a snowmobile ban in the two parks failed in the House last year on a 210-210 tie. But the ban lost ground this year when previous supporters, including C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger, D-Md., switched sides to oppose it 224-198.

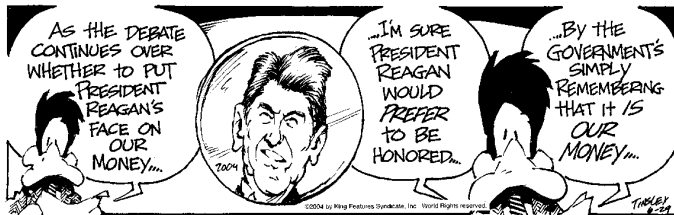
Ruppersberger's chief concern was access, a spokeswoman said. He worried that

without snowmobiles, visitors couldn't get around Yellowstone during the three-month winter season. Hiking and cross-country skiing aren't an option for everyone, he reasoned. And he was impressed by research from the snowmobile industry that argued the multipassenger snowcoaches urged as an alternative would offer no improvement on air quality from snowmobiles.

It winter access to Old Faithful is inalienable right? That may be what the courts decide. Until then, Bush should let the park service heed its own best judgment and keep the snowmobiles out.

## Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY





## Fatal highway crash

**AZ** PHOENIX — A bus traveling from Los Angeles to Texas went through an intersection as it left the highway and crashed, killing two people and injuring 13, police said. Authorities were investigating, but the cause of the wreck was not immediately known. The bus driver was believed to be among the dead, about 40 people were aboard.

Instead of turning left or right upon exiting the interstate, the driver went through an intersection and onto a lot where empty buses were parked, officials said.

The bus ripped through a fence before slamming into two empty buses and two steel storage containers. No one was on the lot at the time, Detective Tony Morales said.

## Deadly fall at park

**UT** ZION NATIONAL PARK — A 14-year-old boy died in a 1,000-foot fall during a Boy Scout hike in Zion National Park.

Kristoffer N. Jones of Long Beach, Calif., was at Angels Landing, a popular but steep hiking spot in the southern Utah park, when he fell off a cliff Friday afternoon, National Park Service spokesman Ron Terry said. A search and rescue team had to rappel down the cliff to get to the body, which was recovered Saturday morning.

Terry said the troop was hiking along a trail when Jones fell.

"The incident is under investigation but we don't know the cause at this time," Terry said.

Members of Jones' troop were taken to a church where they were counseled by park staff and members of the ward of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

## Restoring streams

**HI** HONOLULU — A petition seeking to restore water to four streams in the Central Waikuku region of Maui has been filed with the State Commission on Water Resource Management.

Earthjustice said that it filed the petition on behalf of two community groups, Maui Tomorrow and Hui o Na Wai Eha.

Waiehe, North and South Waiehu, Iao and Waikapu streams hold historic and ongoing significance as natural and cultural resources, the environmental law firm said.

The streams continue to be drained often completely dry by diversion works operated by former plantation interests, Earthjustice said.

The petition is similar to the one that began the landmark Waiahole Ditch case on Oahu, it said.

## Embarrassing fire

**CA** SALINAS — A costly fire in an embarrassing location has led to a battle in court.

Officials here say an illuminated nature scene sparked a blaze that caused \$2 million in damage in a building that lacked sprinklers, fire alarms and smoke detectors — even though it served as headquarters for Salinas' chief fire-prevention officer.

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection concluded that faulty electrical components in the backlit picture of a wa-



terfall, a gift to the fire marshal from his wife, caused the August 2002 fire.

The city is suing the owners of the store where the gift was purchased; Los Angeles-based Teistar Trading Co., which city lawyers claim is the product's distributor; and New Continental International Corp. of Ontario, identified as the manufacturer.

## Cabin fever at Baxter

**ME** MILLINOCKET — For decades, campers have lined up on New Year's Eve to be the first in line the next morning to reserve just one night in Lookout Cabin, which is Baxter State Park's most popular spot.

Perched on granite boulders, the cabin with a wall of windows and a chorus of bullfrogs feels like it's part of the Dacey Pond.

Mount Katahdin, in the distance, glows when the sun sets.

So it's also easy to understand why some campers aren't taking kindly to the notion of Lookout Cabin and nearby Outlet Cabin being razed this fall to make way for a modern bat-free, airtight cabin.

Park director Irvin "Buzz" Caverly Jr., who conceived the plan, argues that priority historic preservation is not the park's role. Park father Percival Baxter's instructions give clear priorities for how the park should be managed, and the human history of the area is not among them.



## Back to the future

The replica keelboat of the Discovery Expedition of St. Charles navigates past the Kansas City, Mo., skyline. The re-enactors are on their way to Kaw Point, which is at the confluence of the Missouri and Kansas rivers.

## Baby stabbed

**UT** ST. GEORGE — A man who took a baby hostage stabbed the infant during a standoff with police before officers shot and wounded the man in the hip.

The baby was flown to a Salt Lake City hospital with stab wounds to some internal organs, but was expected to live, St. George police spokesman Craig Harding said.

Police identified the suspect as Valentin S. Echevarria, and said the child was believed to be his girlfriend's. Officials were not sure if the child was his.

The child's mother ran to a neighbor and called police, saying she had been stabbed in the hand by a man who still had her baby in her home.

When officers saw Echevarria stab the baby, they tried to subdue him with the beanbag rounds, then bullets, Harding said.

Echevarria, 28, had been deported recently, Harding said. He was treated and released for a gunshot wound to the hip, then taken to a jail and held on charges of aggravated attempted murder and aggravated kidnapping, Harding said.

## Bias crime

**NJ** EGG HARBOR TOWNSHIP — SHIP — Slurs against people of Middle Eastern descent were spray-painted on a house near the hometown of a contractor slain in Saudi Arabia, and police were calling it a bias crime.

Police said Khalil Bano, 46, found the graffiti on his southern New Jersey home on Thursday.

A Muslim group said it worried the graffiti was in response to the slaying of engineer Paul Johnson Jr. last week.

Johnson, 49, a helicopter engineer who grew up in nearby Eagleswood Township, was beheaded by militants on June 18, six days after his abduction.

Over the weekend, one man posted a sign saying "Stamp out Islam" on a utility pole in Eagleswood Township, another sign in Little Egg Harbor Township read, "Last night I wasn't a racist but today I feel racist towards Islamic beliefs."

Others in the community have condemned the signs and called for tolerance.

## Light-rail trains returns

**MN** MINNEAPOLIS — Light-rail trains began carrying passengers in Minneapolis recently, 50 years after streetcar service ended.

The first of the sleek yellow-and-blue cars rolled out after a morning ceremony in the downtown Warehouse District and people waiting for the next train stood in a line that stretched a block long.

For now, the trains run only from the Warehouse District to historic Fort Snelling, about a 20-minute ride.

Full service, which would extend beyond Fort Snelling to Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport and on to the Mall of America in suburban Bloomington — 12 miles from the Warehouse District — is scheduled to begin in December.

The fare will be \$1.75 during peak hours and \$1.25 off peak.



## Father knows best

Gabriel Foster, left, of Conway, Mass., watches his dad, Aaron, get dressed for a battle reenactment during Fort Ticonderoga's Grand Encampment of the French and Indian War in Ticonderoga, N.Y.



## Look out below

Two members of the U.S. Army Golden Knights Parachute Team look at the jump site from the jump plane above the Davenport Airport in Davenport, Iowa, as they prepare to start the 2004 Quad-City Air Show.



## Just hamming it up

Peter Kochler, left, and Perry Crampton, of the Northern Arizona DX Association, participate in the American Radio League's Radio Field Day from a camper at Ashurst Lake near Flagstaff, Ariz. Some 3,000 stations from Canada to Mexico are attempting to contact as many other ham radio operators as possible in a 24-hour period.





## Cat woman

Gloria Harding, of Hudson, Fla., gets an affectionate nudge from her 1-year-old Sphinx cat, Sundancerman, after he appeared in an all breed category of the Tampa Bay Feline Fanciers 10-ring ACFA Championship & Household Pet Show in Clearwater, Fla.



## Big Apple shines

New York City's Empire State Building is illuminated in lavender and white in honor of Gay Pride Week. The Chrysler Building can be seen to the right.



## Passage to paradise

Passengers disembark the "Pride of Aloha" in Hilo, Hawaii. The boat is the first U.S.-flagged cruise ship in nearly 50 years.

## Patient's rights ruling

**CT** HARTFORD — The state Supreme Court ruled the state's Patient's Bill of Rights doesn't extend to prisoners. The court ruled in the case of Bryant Wiseman, 28, a mentally ill Hartford man who died after a prison fight. Wiseman's mother sued state prison officials, prison guards and prison health care workers, claiming they failed to properly treat her son's schizophrenia.

## Benefits-loss reprieve

**GA** ATLANTA — Gov. Sonny Perdue offered a 90-day reprieve to 1,700 nursing home patients who had been scheduled to lose Medicaid benefits when the state's new budget year begins July 1. He said the delay will give them time to make new arrangements. But he left no hope he will reverse his administration's budget-cutting policies for that program.

## Abandoned infants

**CO** DENVER — The body of a newborn baby boy was found in the trash in a women's bathroom of a sports bar a day after another child was found clinging to life in a trash bin in another part of the city.

The baby found by a cleaning crew appears to have been full-term, police spokeswoman Virginia Lopez said. She said it was not known how the baby died.

Police were searching for the baby's mother, and said they did not know if the child was born in the bathroom or brought there from somewhere else.

The infant found alive was placed on life-support at St. Anthony's Central Hospital, Lopez said. The hospital would not release information on the child's condition.

Firefighters were dispatched to the area after someone called to report a woman in labor in a house nearby. They found the baby wrapped in a blanket and placed inside a box in the trash bin.

Lopez said the mother was found and there was evidence that she had given birth. If the child dies, the 19-year-old mother would face the charge of child abuse resulting in death.

Under state law, parents may abandon a newborn baby within 72 hours if they leave the child at a hospital or fire station.

## Police picket line?

**MA** BOSTON — The city's police union plans to picket all of Mayor Tom Menino's events at this weekend's U.S. Conference of Mayors, union officials say. During one event, the Boston Police Patrolmen's Association will rent a yacht to display a giant banner reading "How Many Mayors Does it Take to Sign a Contract?" The union has been working without a contract for two years.

## Up, up and away

**KS** WICHITA — Competitors in an event billed as the longest all-woman air race in the world begin gathering this week.

Thirty-three planes and 68 pilots

are expected to participate in this year's Air Race Classic. The event has its roots in the 1929 Women's Air Derby in which Amelia Earhart was among the competitors.

## Improve nursing homes

**TN** KINGSFORD — The AARP is launching a campaign lobbying the state's government to improve the way long-term care is delivered in Tennessee. The state is "dead last" in providing alternatives to nursing homes, says AARP spokesman Brian McGuire.

Tennessee will spend nearly \$1 billion on nursing homes next year and only \$33 million on at-home and community-based services.

## More ship inspections

**AL** JUNEAU — The Coast Guard plans to make on-board inspections of cruise ships docking in Juneau this season. Plans include monitoring passenger, crew, baggage and cargo security. By July 1, large passenger ships must have installed an automatic identification system, a device similar to a transponder that tracks the position of an aircraft.

## Chugging along

**MN** ST. PAUL — A flotilla of riverboats will begin chugging up the Mississippi River this week in a re-enactment of the 1854 Grand Excursion. The original trip was organized by railroad officials hoping to promote development opportunities available on the frontier. Participants will set off from Rock Island, Ill., and stop in river cities for parties and festivals.

They're to arrive July 3.

## No clowning around

**NE** NORTH PLATTE — Country singer Mickey Martin Murphy wasn't amused by the bawdy humor of clowns at the Buffalo Bill Rodeo.

Murphy, who was honored at the Nebraska Days festival for promoting family values in his work, says the clowns are sending the wrong message.

"Why don't we try to clean up some of the so-called humor in rodeo so that it's better for our kids to attend?" he asked the crowd during his performance Saturday. He received the Buffalo Bill Award for "outstanding contribution to quality family entertainment" in the tradition of Buffalo Bill Cody, who based his famous Wild West Show out of North Platte.

When asked by The North Platte Telegraph about his comments, Murphy sent a letter stating that he was "disappointed, dismayed, shocked and sickened to hear the extremely dirty, smutty, below-the-belt 'humor' of the rodeo clowns."

Audience member Sue Elmsheuser said the clowns dumped out a suitcase of women's underwear and bras and then dragged them around the arena. Another clown who was dressed as a woman used large balloons for breasts, she said.

Elmsheuser said that one clown, after spotting Miss Rodeo America, exclaimed, "Looking at her makes me want to go home and slap my wife."

Stories and photos from wire services

# Iraq handover a milestone, but what's next?

By ROBERT BARR  
The Associated Press

LONDON — The handover of sovereignty in Iraq is a milestone on a bloody road, but much of the world reserved judgment Monday on its significance.

French President Jacques Chirac, still the focal point of European frustration over the Iraq war, expressed delight at the sudden power transfer but warned that it may prove, "alas, not sufficient."

Is sovereignty real if Iraq remains the responsibility of foreign troops? Will Prime Minister Iyad Allawi's fledgling government win hearts, minds and security control? Does the handover ease the widespread bitterness in the Muslim world against the West? The answers depend in part on the insurgents — and the outcome could affect not only Iraq but also the U.S. presidential election, the trans-Atlantic alliance, world oil markets, and prospects for democracy in the Middle East.

The new government, created by the United States, lacking a democratic mandate and commanding a still-to-be-trained police and military force, officially takes the lead in battling an insurrection which has defied the most powerful military force on earth.

The clandestine nature of the unannounced ceremony in the heavily fortified Green Zone in Baghdad — and the lack of any jubilant scenes in the streets, spoke volumes about the difficult task ahead.

Many in the region, where the presence

of Western troops is a sensitive issue, were skeptical about whether the transfer of power declaration had genuine meaning.

"Occupation will wear a new dress," said Syrian political researcher Haitham Kilani.

Persuading ordinary Iraqis that this is not the case is crucial to the new government.

"I personally think that once the Iraqis feel that they are their own masters, and they have a government that has power, then this will make the restoration of stability easier," Egyptian Foreign Minister Maher said.

The hope is that if the new government wins the support of its people, this will in turn chasten the militants — some local, others radicals who streamed in through Iraq's porous borders — to end the insurrection.

In the short term, the change of command two days ahead of schedule seemed to bring the United States closer into line with France and Germany, the most determined foes of the decision to go to war more than a year ago.

Given that few if any countries stand to gain from continued instability in Iraq, even skeptics wished Allawi's new government well.

"One must not forget that Iraq is geographically closer to Europe, and that an unstable Iraq is in fact more threatening to Europe than to the U.S.," said Frank Umbach, a security expert at the German Council on Foreign Relations in Berlin, explaining Europe's near-embracing of Allawi.

But Chirac's briskly comments reminded the world that trans-Atlantic unity over the war had not been fully buried.

The French leader warned that a NATO agreement to train Iraq's armed forces in no way meant sending French troops to Iraq.

"France won't train Iraq's army," he said. "We will train the gendarmes or police or soldiers on Iraqi territory — that's clear," Chirac said at a NATO summit in Istanbul, Turkey. "The return of Iraq's sovereignty is a necessary condition although, alas, not sufficient, for restoring peace," he said.

German President Gerhard Schroeder, who also opposed the war, welcomed the handover but stressed "there will be no military engagement of our own, no German soldiers in Iraq."

President Bush had hoped for a more dramatic commitment of actual NATO troops to help police Iraq, but nevertheless stands to benefit from the transition, said

Jonathan Eyal, director of studies at the Royal United States Institute in London.

"In political terms, it does project an image of a calm U.S. administration and of a president who just happens to be in Europe telling the Europeans: 'See, this is what you wanted me to do and it was done,'" Eyal said.

The new government also raised the hope that real politics will replace simplistic pro- or anti-Americanism in the country, he said.

"One of the interesting aspects of the insurgent groups up to now is that they haven't made political demands," Trapp said.

"The opponents have no positive program, the only thing they have is to throw out the Americans," said Jan Hallenberg, a political scientist at the Swedish Defense College. "Because of that there is maybe a possibility to break the process," but not in the short term.

In that sense, despite the handover of sovereignty, the insurgents' targets remain as close by, and as tempting, as they've been since the fall of Saddam Hussein.

For one resident of Baghdad, the tests for the new government are clear, and down-to-earth.

"When we regain our security, safety and jobs, we will celebrate then," said Ahmed Karim, 31, as he stood opposite the Abu Hanifa Mosque in Baghdad. "When I can go out for dinner with my friends after 9 p.m., we will celebrate."

## Bremer leaves Iraq after transfer of power

By JIM KRANE  
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq — L. Paul Bremer's last day as U.S. administrator of Iraq started as it often did: he arrived at his office Monday inside the heavily guarded Green Zone at 6 a.m., wearing a dark blue suit and his trademark tan-colored Army combat boots.

A few hours later, Bremer was climbing the steps of a gray Air Force transport plane, waving goodbye — two days earlier than the world expected — to a country he ruled for 14 months.

Bremer began discussing the possibility of an early transfer 10 days ago with interim Prime Minister Iyad Allawi. The two agreed Sunday to go ahead with the sovereignty transfer earlier than planned, said a senior U.S. official in Baghdad, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Several officials said the decision was meant to undercut the ability of Iraqi insurgents to spoil the handover with a hail of car bombs and rocket-propelled grenades.

"I'm sure many of their plans have been foiled. It's a victory over the terrorists as well," said Iraq's government spokesman Hamid al-Kifaei. "They will be on the defensive and we will be on the offensive."

Bremer broke the surprise news to his staff at his 8 a.m. meeting with senior advisers from the Coalition Provisional Authority. He told them the transfer of sovereignty would happen in two hours.

Bremer spoke of the CPA's ac-



U.S. Administrator L. Paul Bremer bids farewell as he boards an Air Force plane at Baghdad International Airport on Monday for his flight out of Baghdad. Earlier Bremer attended a ceremony officially transferring sovereignty to the interim Iraqi government.

complishments, and told his advisers they should be proud of their work. He said he felt strongly that Allawi's government would succeed.

Bremer then formally dissolved the CPA — the U.S.-led authority that ruled Iraq for 13 months — and said he was leaving the country.

Just before the ceremony, Bremer delivered a letter from President Bush to Allawi, request-

ing the resumption of diplomatic relations.

The handover ceremony took place inside the Green Zone, in an office in the building once used by the former Iraqi Governing Council. About a dozen officials were present, seated in gilded chairs in a formal room with Louis XIV decor.

Bremer sat on the couch with Iraqi President Ghazi al-Yawer. In the middle of the room was a table, in the center of which was a

bowl of flowers with a small Iraqi flag in it.

At 10:26 a.m. everyone stood. The two leaders exchanged documents, overseen by Iraq's chief justice Midhat al-Mahmoud. At that moment, U.S. sovereignty over Iraq was transferred to an Iraqi government.

Brig. Gen. Mark Kimmitt, the coalition deputy operations chief, was the only U.S. military official present.

Bremer, making his last public speech in Iraq, read the transfer document, which was inside a blue folder.

"As recognized in U.N. security council resolution 1546 — [the CPA] will cease to exist on June 28," he read. "The Iraqi interim government will assume and exercise full sovereignty on behalf of the Iraqi people."

"We welcome Iraq's steps [to take] its rightful place among the free nations of the world."

With a laugh, he added: "Signed, sincerely, L. Paul Bremer, ex-administrator of the Coalition Provisional Authority."

After the ceremony, al-Yawer expressed his thanks to the coalition. "There is no way to turn back now," al-Yawer said.

Bremer said that despite an ongoing insurgency, a series of car bombs and kidnappings country-wide, he was leaving Iraq "confident in its future."

Two hours later, Bremer was at Baghdad International Airport. His last moments in Iraq were spent in a meeting with Lt. Gen. Ricardo Sanchez, the top American commander in Iraq, who is to leave soon. Sanchez met Bremer inside the airport to say goodbye, officials said.

## Poll indicates Americans not impressed with handover

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — By a 2-1 margin, Americans say the turnover of political control to Iraqis now is not a sign of success, but a sign of failure because the nation's stability remains in question, a poll out Monday found.

The U.S.-led coalition in Iraq transferred sovereignty to an interim Iraqi government Monday — two days early.

Six in 10, or 60 percent, said the handover of authority at such an unstable point is a sign of failure, while three in 10, 32 percent, said the handover of authority on schedule is a sign of success, according to the CNN-USA Today-Gallup poll. The poll was taken last week.

Six in 10 said they think it is unlikely internal security will be established in Iraq in the next five years and slightly more, 63 percent, said they think U.S. troops will be in Iraq for another three years or more.

Americans would prefer a shorter time that troops are deployed.

Seven in 10 said the United States should have a significant number of troops in Iraq two years or less.

The poll found that despite their doubts, a majority, 54 percent, had hopes the transfer of authority to the Iraqis could improve the situation in that country.



## EUROPEAN FORECAST

**Benelux:** Mostly cloudy with rain showers. Highs in the upper 60s to upper 70s. Lows in the mid- to upper 50s.

**Britain, Ireland:** Mostly cloudy with rain showers. Highs in the mid-60s to mid-70s and lows in the 50s.

**Croatia and Bosnia:** Mostly cloudy with rain showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the mid-80s and lows in the upper 50s.

**France:** Partly cloudy with highs in the upper 70s to low 80s. Lows in the upper 50s to upper 60s.

**Northern Germany:** Partly to mostly cloudy with rain showers. Highs in the upper 60s to upper 70s and lows in the lower 50s to lower 60s.

**Southern Germany:** Mostly cloudy with highs in the lower to mid-70s. Lows in the lower 50s.

**Hungary:** Partly cloudy with highs in the mid-70s and lows in the mid-50s.

**Northern Italy:** Mostly cloudy with rain showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 70s to lower 80s. Lows in the lower 60s.

**Southern Italy:** Partly cloudy with highs in the upper 80s to lower 90s. Lows in the lower 60s to lower 70s.

**Kosovo:** Mostly cloudy with thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the upper 50s.

**Norway:** Cloudy with rain showers. Highs in the upper 50s to the upper 60s and lows in the upper 40s to lower 50s.

**Portugal, Spain:** Sunny to partly cloudy with highs in the upper 90s to lower 100s. Lows in the mid-60s to mid-70s.

**Turkey:** Partly cloudy with highs in the lower 80s to lower 90s. Lows in the 60s.

For current weather watches, warnings, and 5-day forecasts go to the USAF Operational Weather Squadron home page at <https://www.semabch.af.mil>

## AFRICA

Cape Town	HI LO	Mogadishu	HI LO
Dakar	84 74	Nairobi	69 51
Khartoum	83 73	Rabat	88 78
Nairobi	80 65	Tripoli	95 69

## THE WORLD

Amsterdam	HI LO	Manila	HI LO
Bahran	109 83	Mexico City	72 55
Beijing	83 63	Montreal	69 51
Buenos Aires	72 52	Riyadh	110 82
Caracas	78 66	Sao de Jan	87 67
Havana	89 69	Sydney	80 60
Hong Kong	84 63	Sydney	80 60
London	71 56	Tripoli	95 69

## MIDEAST

Incirlik	86/64	Ashgabat	106/73	Kabul	94/65	Islamabad	103/78	New Delhi	101/86
Tel Aviv	87/69	Tehran	107/75	Kandahar	103/73	Hyderabad	91/76	Bombay	87/79
Cairo	93/70	Kuwait City	114/80	Zahedan	100/73	Karachi	91/82	Dubai	106/83
		Dhahran	106/81	Dubai	106/83				

## TODAY'S STATES OUTLOOK

Alaska, Tex.	HI	LO	Oritk	Cleveland
Alaska, Tex.	92	67	PCdly	Colorado Springs
Alaska, Tex.	78	58	PCdly	Columbia, Mo.
Alaska, Tex.	86	62	PCdly	Corpus Christi
Alaska, Tex.	81	63	PCdly	Concord, N.H.
Alaska, Tex.	81	63	PCdly	Corpus Christi
Alaska, Tex.	81	63	PCdly	Dallas-Ft. Worth
Alaska, Tex.	81	63	PCdly	Daytona Beach
Alaska, Tex.	81	63	PCdly	Denver
Alaska, Tex.	81	63	PCdly	Des Moines
Alaska, Tex.	81	63	PCdly	Detroit
Alaska, Tex.	81	63	PCdly	El Paso
Alaska, Tex.	81	63	PCdly	Elkins
Alaska, Tex.	81	63	PCdly	Evansville
Alaska, Tex.	81	63	PCdly	Exeter
Alaska, Tex.	81	63	PCdly	Fairfield
Alaska, Tex.	81	63	PCdly	Fargo
Alaska, Tex.	81	63	PCdly	Hagerst
Alaska, Tex.	81	63	PCdly	Hart
Alaska, Tex.	81	63	PCdly	North Platte
Alaska, Tex.	81	63	PCdly	Fort Wayne
Alaska, Tex.	81	63	PCdly	Grand
Alaska, Tex.	81	63	PCdly	Houston
Alaska, Tex.	81	63	PCdly	Jacksonville
Alaska, Tex.	81	63	PCdly	Madison
Alaska, Tex.	81	63	PCdly	Great Falls
Alaska, Tex.	81	63	PCdly	Green Bay
Alaska, Tex.	81	63	PCdly	Green Bay



## FACES 'N' PLACES

### Little Steven's garage band festival

Classic '60s rock TV shows "Hullabaloo," "Upbeat" and "Shindig!" inspired Little Steven Van Zandt's latest project — a one-day garage band festival featuring the godfathers of garage rock and their offspring.

The International Underground Garage Festival will be Aug. 14 on Randall's Island in New York City. The show will include the reunited New York Dolls, Iggy Pop & The Stooges and Bo Diddley. Van Zandt announced Friday.

"I've always wanted to do a rock and roll festival in the old style of Alan Freed, 'Shindig,' 'Hullabaloo' and all of those early shows," Van Zandt said.

He promised concertgoers "one giant B-movie beach party complete with monsters and aliens" — although he offered one caveat.

"I am having a bit of trouble getting the monsters and aliens on board," he said. "It's their agents that kill you."

The concert also will feature The Strokes, The Ravelettes and The Chesterfield Kings.

### Kutcher peddles clothing, accessories

Ashton Kutcher is the new face of Zoo York, a skate-influenced collection of clothing and accessories produced by Ecco Unlimited.

He'll be featured in a new ad campaign premiering in magazines next month and do another set of ads for spring 2005.

Greg Lucchi, vice president of Zoo York, said Kutcher, star of "That '70s Show," represents the spirit of the brand through the attitude and sense of humor he shows in his life and work.

"He engages everything with such sincerity that you can't help but know that they are seeing a true representation of who he is ... no matter what his surroundings. This consistency is similar to the philosophy which drives Zoo York," Lucchi said Friday.

The 26-year-old actor added: "I don't wear your clothes, they make the clothes I wear. Their line looks like my closet."

Zoo York's line includes jeans, T-shirts and sweat shirts inspired by New York street art.

### Denmark welcomes George H.W. Bush

Former President George H.W. Bush has been named honorary chairman of Denmark's annual Rebel Festival celebrating the independence of the United States.

Though the former president will not be attending the Fourth of July party in northern Denmark, organizers said Friday they plan to give him a medal related to the title some time next year.

"We are really honored that he has accepted our invitation" to be honorary chairman, said Rebel Society President Harald Nielsen.

The U.S. Embassy in Copenhagen confirmed that Bush accepted the title in a letter sent to the Rebel Society.

Since 1912, Danes and descendants of emigrants to the United States have celebrated America's Independence Day with barbecues, square dancing and country music outside Rebild, a village 155 miles northwest of Copenhagen. Between 3,000 and 10,000 usually attend, Nielsen said.

The festival traditionally picks a prominent American and Dane to speak, which Bush did in 1983 when he was vice president.

### David Lee Roth jumps into new career

Leonine-tressed singer David Lee Roth, the man who put the spin in spandex while crooning "Jump," among other Van Halen hits, is reinventing himself as — pass the smelling salts — an emergency medical technician.

Roth traded his Pasadena, Calif., mansion for a modest apartment on Manhattan's Lower East Side to pursue EMT training. "I want to be working in the outer boroughs. This city promises great color and insight in each and every neighborhood," said Roth, who plans to volunteer one weekend a month. "On the Upper East Side, it's going to be heart attacks and stomachaches. But in other neighborhoods, it's all trauma."

Still, Roth stays true to his rocker roots, saying his dream patient would be "a Scandinavian hikerette."

Photos and stories from wire services



The Darkness pose with their awards for Best Rock Act Group and Best British Album at the 2004 Brit Awards in London in February. The band recently took Britain's Ivor Award for the year's best songwriting.

# The Darkness' retro rock

## With no apologies for that '70s sound, band sells millions of debut, 'Permission to Land'

BY JIM ABBOTT  
The Orlando Sentinel

With his feathered cat-suits, over-the-top falsetto and the defiantly retro arena-rock of his band The Darkness, singer Justin Hawkins invites parody.

Just be careful with the comparisons: AC/DC and Queen are fine enough, but Spinal Tap raises the singer's hackles — even if the band's amplifiers sound like they go to 11. "That comes only from journalists who don't know anything about rock, someone who has only watched 'Spinal Tap' and 'Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure' and starts writing for an indie paper," Hawkins says by phone from London. "Anybody who says we can't write songs is, frankly, lying."

More than image, the secret to The Darkness is the unexpected quality of its "Permission to Land" debut. Recently, the band followed the validation of selling 2.6 million copies worldwide by taking Britain's Ivor Award for the year's best songwriting.

"I can't get that miserable about things when there are people in certain corridors that appreciate what we do," Hawkins says, using a nasty word to dismiss those who don't respect the band's talent.

"They still need a piece of us to sell their magazines," he sniffs, then stops to reconsider. "Does that sound arrogant? Ah well, there's nothing worse than false modesty."

It certainly doesn't become a rock star whose band has sparked followers ranging from British Prime Minister Tony Blair to comedian Jack Black. The latter, who embraces rock's broad comedic possibilities in

cult favorite Tenacious D, has described the Darkness as a welcome throwback.

"A delicious fresh breeze in an otherwise stale rock landscape," Black told Entertainment Weekly.

Not everyone has been so supportive. The band never even considered Hawkins as lead vocalist until his rendition of Queen's "Bohemian Rhapsody" at a Millennium Eve karaoke contest opened the eyes of his guitarist brother Dan Hawkins. Early British club shows inspired record company scouts to head for the exits.

Another band might have been devastated, but Hawkins was energized.

"It was encouraging because it's always the bands that struggle that have enduring longevity," he says. "Cream, Aerosmith, bands like that."

While he doesn't dismiss every band that follows a trend, Hawkins didn't want the baggage that came with being part of a hot new sound.

He envisioned the Darkness as something different, even if it sounded like band members had raided their parents' 1970s and '80s vinyl collection.

"I'd rather be compared to 1970s and '80s bands than any 1990s bands because there's no one in the 1990s that we'd aspire to be like," Hawkins says. That ego resurfaces in his assessment of the band's impact in its native Great Britain.

"I think it's akin to Nirvana. When Nirvana came along, everything that came along next sounded like a watered-down version. Every now and then, there's a band that ... shows that music doesn't have to be formulaic."

Or at least can revive a different formula. Besides, if the soaring vocals

and monster guitars on the MTV-driven "I Believe in a Thing Called Love" or "Get Your Hands Off My Woman" are derivative, they also happen to be genuinely memorable.

And, for all his bluster, Hawkins is surprisingly magnanimous about the angst-ridden emo bands and earnest, shoe-gazing indie-rockers that contrast so starkly with the overt showmanship of the Darkness. He loves Radiohead.

"Jeff Buckley was good, wasn't he? There's good and bad in just about any kind of music, but I'd say about any genre's 'earnest' and 'entertainment,' it's hard to get both in the same sentence, really."

"Still, I would never say that I hate any band," he says.

"There's people I hate, but there is room for everybody."

Among the people that Hawkins dislikes are the members of Staind, who tried to have the Darkness yanked from the radio playlist at K-Rock in New York.

"They tried to get us off because they didn't want to be on a station that played the Darkness," Hawkins says. "They think we're a joke."

He utters another very dirty word, then softens his tone: "I would never do something like that. That's really wrong."

Despite that controversy, the Darkness is still on the air in New York and elsewhere. Hawkins is optimistic enough to be shopping for a few rock-star perks.

A mansion? "I looked at this morning," he says, "but I'm really looking at cars now."

He has narrowed the search to "a Jag, the only true British car, really. I'll deal with the mansion later."



# Horoscope

Venus returns to a direct transit through Gemini, and, already, we can feel the tension start to slack on scarier-up relationships.

The urgency of money problems seems to have quieted down, too. It now seems like there's time to work these things out, and we are patient enough to do it. Soon, love and money issues will get easier to handle.

## TODAY'S BIRTHDAY

**June 29.** You're a stunner this year. The information is so drastic, people who know you will say, "Who are you?" Super status is reached at work. You deserve the reputation you are earning. Your finances reflect your diligent work this fall.

Some of you will opt for new transportation or a tropical vacation. Scorpio and Sagittarius are favored partners.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** You've pinpointed what you need from a relationship, and it's time to ask. Define your role, and stay within the boundaries. That way, nothing gets too complicated. You introduce those who wouldn't know each other if not for you.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** There's a big opportunity to let go! It's easier now because you see what you want for your future, and it's juicy enough to entice you to do anything holding you back. Besides, living in the past only exhausts your strength.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** The day is peppered with glorious disruptions! It keeps you on your toes and also makes you wonder if your priorities are really straight to begin with. You're in a competitive mood this afternoon but should avoid high-risk situations.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** It will be hard to find time to yourself, so you'll have to make it — possibly even fight for it. Spending an hour dreaming, planning and visualizing your success will prevent you from spending three hours on a futile activity.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** There will be the never-ending question of "Should I stay, or should I go?" and

you're better off staying.

There's too much to do in your corner of the world. Any improvements made now have a far-reaching effect.

## VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Your greatest lessons could come from not getting what you want right away. If you've been pushing for something to happen and nothing is, consider it a blessing. There is a greater wisdom at work.

## LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)

All corners want to run the show — too bad for them that you are really the one best equipped to do it. Use that easygoing leadership style you've so carefully

honed — the one where you make it seem like their idea.

## SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)

The beauty of partnership is the theme.

What has a positive effect on the big picture might not fully satisfy you as an individual just yet, but you are willing to compromise in order to see results. In the end, you're duly rewarded.

## SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

**19.** Find out where your relationship stands and what you and your partner are willing to do to heal the past and create a relationship where you're getting the kind of love and encouragement you need.

## CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

**19.** This will be a five-star day for you, and even better, there are people around to be happy for you. You're thrilled that progress is coming as quickly as you wanted it to come.

## AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

The anticipation (if an arrival could take up most of your energy). Many details must fall in line in order for things to go the way you've imagined. If working out, be sure to stretch, warm up and cool down to avoid injury.

## PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

A behavior you used to think was maverick is really just stubborn. The new motto is "If you can't beat 'em, join 'em." It's not weakness but smarts that drives this transition. If no one understands a product, no one will buy it.

Creators Syndicate

Joyce Jillion



Calvin and Hobbes



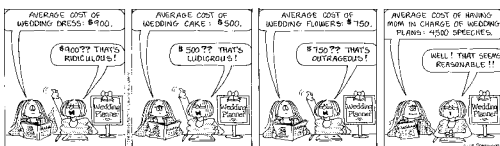
Jump Start



Zits



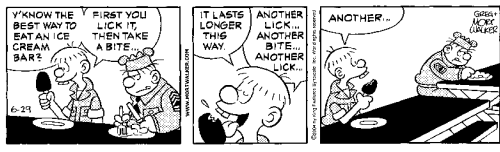
Cathy



Hi and Lois



Beetle Bailey



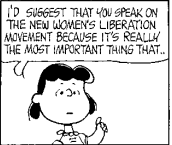
Red and Rover



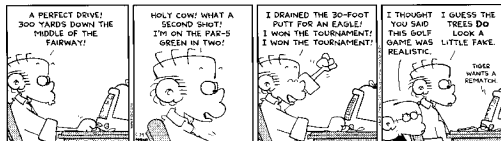
Better or Worse



Peanuts



Fotrot



B.C.



Baby Blues



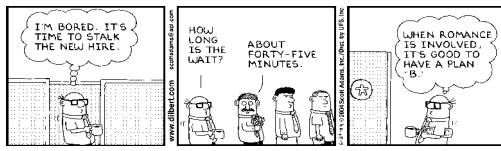
Spider Man



Blondie



Dilbert



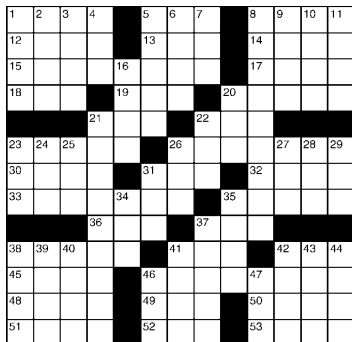
Hagar



Garfield



## Eugene Sheffer Crossword



## Across

- 1 Arizona river
- 5 Health resort
- 8 End of the song
- 12 March 15, e.g.
- 13 Scull tool
- 14 Enthusiastic
- 15 It may be Rather informative
- 17 Put aside
- 18 Melancholy
- 20 Holdup man?
- 21 Show you're
- 18-Across
- 22 Support system?
- 23 "Loves me (not)" factor
- 26 Horror-movie villains
- 30 A really long time
- 31 Superman foe
- 32 Toast topper
- 33 Couldn't stand
- 35 Corrupt
- 37 Barracks bed
- 38 Plays the clarinet
- 41 Moo — gain pan
- 42 — Veneto
- 45 Verdi opera
- 46 Blue
- 48 Race place
- 49 Indivisible
- 50 Norway's capital
- 51 Not so much
- 52 Exchange vows
- 53 Gridlock noise

## Down

- 3 Laschious
- 4 Pompous sort
- 5 Lathered
- 6 Quarterback's tactic
- 7 Illustrations
- 8 Look for
- 9 Office shape
- 10 Prima donna
- 11 Fruit drinks
- 16 Ringlet
- 20 It's up your sleeve
- 21 "Survivor" group
- 22 Engage in pugilism
- 23 Cronic
- 24 Freudian subject
- 25 Crumpled eater's quaff
- 26 Letter from London
- 27 Under the weather
- 28 "A mouse!"
- 29 Sauce source
- 31 Took by the hand
- 34 Word embroidered on terrycloth
- 35 Benefit
- 37 Intimidated
- 38 \$50, in "Monopoly"
- 40 Probability
- 41 Among the missing
- 42 Florist shop item
- 43 Place for
- 21-Down
- 44 On
- 46 Jones' partner
- 47 Sticky horse

## Answer to Previous Puzzle



## Down

1 Traps

6-29

## CRYPTOQUIP

F V G E M ' R N D E T R N Q  
 D M Y I W U A F Y J Q F T N P P W D .  
 F I N T F R N G E M A W R N

V E M Y Q U W Y Y F J D E T M U F E Y D .  
 Yesterday's Cryptoquip: DO YOU THINK A GUY  
 WHO'S WORKING AT A SODA FOUNTAIN IS  
 REALLY CALLED A FIZZICIAN?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Y equals N

# Make an effort for an education

**Dear Abby:** Please urge "De-pressed About the Future" to complete her education. I, too, was a younger child (fourth out of five) and only the second of 27 grandchildren to go to college.

My mother ordered me not to talk about college around my siblings, and my brother said I was a snob for wanting a better education. I am so glad I didn't listen to them.

Both of my parents told me how proud they were of me when I received my first degree. And as adults, one sister has earned two B.A.s, and another sister and brother have taken many college classes. The brother who called me a snob is now in college at age 54. He still teases me about being "Susie Co-ed," but he loves college and regrets not having gone sooner. — B.S. M.S., From Ohio

**Dear M.S.:** I applaud your determination and perseverance — and that's no B.S. Readers all

over the country have written to offer advice and emotional support. Read on for some samples:

**Dear Abby:** My husband, Phil, and I were the first in our families to receive university degrees. We did it together,

living in a one-room apartment near campus living on \$90 a month from Phil's G.I. Bill. We ate lots of macaroni and cheese, attended a church within walking distance (we had no car), and graduated in three years with bachelor of science degrees. Later, we earned M.A.E. degrees by going to the university on Friday and Saturday nights. (I graduated with honors.) There is nothing as costly as NOT getting an education.

The best advice I can offer from the perspective of my own education, and that of the hundreds of college students I have taught, is this: (1) Believe in

yourself and do your best. (2) Be enthusiastic and make friends.

(3) Writing from your college experience every opportunity to learn the basics in your chosen field, and attend the elective seminars — the all-campus lectures — to broaden your horizons.

(4) Learn to disagree without being disagreeable.

(5) Recognize learning as an introduction to learning more on your own.

(6) You owe it to yourself, your children, your employer and your community to GO FOR IT!

M. Ballou, Ph.D., Ed.D., Past President of the American Association of University Women  
**Dear Dr. Ballou:** You have my respect and admiration. Wouldn't it be wonderful to know how many thousands of young people your letter has inspired today?

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can e-mail to Abby on the Internet at: <http://www.uspspress.com/dearabby>  
Universal Press Syndicate

## JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

**SURBT**

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**HAABS**

**GINCHA**

**HARKEW**

www.jumble.com

**Answer here:**

Yesterday's

Jumbles: SWASH EXACT SHANTY BREACH  
Answer: When the fish house offered free meals, the couple asked — WHAT'S THE "CATCH"?

**THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME**  
by Henri Arnold and Mike Arginton  
The 800,000 not have been DISCONTINUED.

This will make new plastic, paper and metal. It'll be worth a million.



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

# Mess of a boyfriend wants to wed

**Dear Annie:** I am in my 40s and divorced, with two kids still at home. I don't earn a lot, but my job pays the bills and allows us to live comfortably. I have a nice house that is paid for, and I keep it in good repair.

The problem is my boyfriend, "Arnie." We live in different towns, but we call each other daily and get together every weekend. He is funny, affectionate and treats me very well. However, he pressures me constantly to marry him, take my kids out of their current school and build a new home on his property so we can be together.

The trouble is, Arnie's lifestyle, values and finances are very different from mine. He owns his own business but frequently cannot pay his bills. He doesn't keep his home clean, and his yard is filled with junk and trash. If we married, I would be working full time and doing all the cooking, cleaning and yard-

## Annie's Mailbox



work. The new house he wants to build costs more than I can afford.

Arnie is a dreamer who always believes his next scheme will solve all his money troubles. He is unwilling to find a better job. He says he'll clean up his property but doesn't, and he refuses to move into my current home with me.

I enjoy dating Arnie, but he continues to push for marriage. Should I uproot my kids, pay his bills, go into debt to pay for a new home, do all the house and yardwork, and close my eyes to the rest? Why should I make all the changes? Shouldn't he be making some compromises, too? — Frustrated

**Dear Frustrated:** You obviously know the answers to your questions.

Arnie sounds like poor marriage material, and you would be foolish to make a commitment to him. The fact that he's pressuring you to marry him and take on

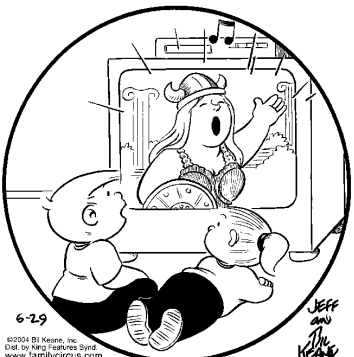
the responsibility of his finances makes his motives seem a little questionable to us. You can do better.

**Dear Annie:** I read the letter from "Ashamed," who said he cursed too much and wanted to quit. I had the same problem, and my secretary had a surefire cure. She suggested I set up a "Swear Jar," and every time I swore at work, I had to put in \$10 (enough to hurt). The money would then be donated to a charitable cause. I agreed to those terms, provided all the other noticeable swearers in the office also participated. After \$360, I was cured, and my office made a \$2,400 donation to the local children's hospital.

— Cursing Cured in Canada  
**Dear Cured:** An expensive lesson, but worthwhile.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to [anniesmailbox@comcast.net](mailto:anniesmailbox@comcast.net), or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045  
Creators Syndicate

## Family Circus



"I'll bet her kids come when she calls them."

## GRAFFITI

Just when mothers think their works done they have a grandchild

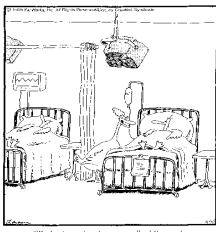
APR 2/3

## Dennis the Menace



"I'll bet my dad would love a cool shower. Right now, don't you?"

## The Far Side



"It's just a miracle you pulled through, George... Why, it was only a few hours ago the whole family was deliberating on whether or not to win your neck."

## Non Sequitur



THE IRONIC BIKER





# Gordon back on course, wins in Sonoma

By Mike Harris  
The Associated Press

SONOMA, Calif. — Jeff Gordon has been so dominant on NASCAR's road courses that it was considered a slump when he went four races without a victory. The slump is over.

Gordon overpowered the field and completed a near-perfect weekend Sunday with a victory in the Dodge/Save Mart 350 at Infineon Raceway.

It was his eighth road course victory, extending his own NASCAR record. But it was his first win at either Infineon or Watkins Glen — the only tracks where Nextel Cup cars turn left and right — since 2001 on the upstate New York circuit.

"In 2002, the competition got better, and we just got a little behind," Gordon said. "Last year, we got our act together and I felt like we were the best car and circumstances worked out to where we didn't win."

"This year, we've taken what we had last year and improved it. I feel like we should be a dominant force on the road courses."

That's exactly what the No. 24 Hendrick Motorsports Chevrolet was at Infineon, winning the pole Friday with a record lap, topping every practice session and setting another record by leading 92 of the 110 laps Sunday on the 1.99-mile, 10-turn course.

It was Gordon's fourth Infineon victory and his third from the pole, Gordon, who jumped from fourth to first in the standings, has three victories this season and 67 in his career.

His only real problem on Sunday was the heat.

The temperature at the scenic wine country circuit near 90 degrees, the ventilation system in Gordon's Chevrolet became as overpowered as his competition.

"Today, I was challenged by my physical fitness," Gordon said. "Those cautions we had with about 40 and 30 laps to go really helped me a lot. It gave me a chance to get a few moments to



Jeff Gordon, front, leads the field early in Sunday's Dodge/Save Mart 350 at Infineon Raceway in Sonoma, Calif. Gordon scored a dominating win. AP

relax and it gave the crew a chance to give me some ice packs and cool me down a little."

The late yellow flags also helped Gordon with another possible problem as crew chief Robbie Loomis cautioned him constantly on the radio to conserve gas.

"I was shutting the engine off rolling downhill and conserving any way I could," said Gordon, whose last pit stop came on lap 68.

"I drove out and got as big a lead as I could and gave a lot of it up there at the end," Gordon said. "It was real tough."

It certainly didn't look it. Gordon beat surprising Jamie McMurray, in only his second start at the Sonoma track, to the finish line by 1.032 seconds — about 10 car-lengths, with road racing specialist Scott Pruett third.

"I knew Jeff was going to have to run off the track or go off up and, typically, he doesn't do that," McMurray said. "I was just waiting on him to make a mistake, but I was driving as hard as I could. . . . We were just hanging on."

Kurt Busch started third and vaulted past both Gordon and Rusty Wallace to grab the lead on the first lap, but Gordon quickly moved back into the top spot and stayed there the rest of the way except during pit stop sequences.

After he made his final stop, during one of six caution periods, Gordon found himself behind Casey Mears and rookie Casey Kahne, both of whom had pitted earlier.

Gordon quickly disposed of Kahne on the restart on lap 70, but it took him until lap 74 before he could work his way past former open-wheel racer Mears.

Once Gordon got back on top, he was not challenged again.

"I was so nervous all weekend that we were going to mess it up somehow," said Gordon, who came here with three finishes of 30th or worse in his past four races. "We've been running real well and just hadn't been getting the results."

"But I still felt a lot of confidence coming in here. This race team does not allow bad weekends to get them down."

Meanwhile, McMurray got past Wallace and Mears to grab second on lap 79, then spent the rest of the race trying without much success to cut into Gordon's lead.

Wallace, another of NASCAR's top road racers, was right behind Pruett in fourth when he ran out of gas after crossing the finish line a lap from the end. He wound up 28th as Michael Waltrip, who started 40th in the 43-car field,

took over fourth place. Series points leader Jimmie Johnson, Gordon's teammate, finished fifth.

Dale Earnhardt Jr. recovered from two spins to finish 11th, but his deficit increased from seven points to 27 behind Johnson in the driver standings.

NASCAR had boy Tony Stewart collided during the race with Ward Burton and Brian Vickers, then got into a clash with Vickers after the race. Vickers, a 20-year-old rookie, said he was still strapped into his car and talking with Stewart about the crash when the former series champion reached into the car, grabbed him and hit him with an open palm.

Both drivers were summoned to the NASCAR hauler. A NASCAR spokesman said there would be a further investigation before determining whether any penalties would be handed out.

## Kupets, McCool virtually assured of Olympics berths

The Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Courtney Kupets and Courtney McCool can relax, knowing their trip to the Athens Olympics is all but assured.

As for the rest of the U.S. team hopefuls, they still have one more test. And it's a biggie.

Kupets and McCool grabbed the two almost-not-quite-guaranteed spots on the U.S. Olympic team Sunday with a 1-2 finish in the final day of trials. They still have to prove "readiness" during next month's selection camp at national team coordinator Martha Karolyi's ranch, but even Karolyi said that's just a formality.

"It definitely helps, pressure-wise," said Kupets, the co-national champion. "You know what's going to happen. You don't have to worry about all the other stuff."

Plenty of other people do. Co-national champ Carly Patterson, local favorite Mohini Bhandral and 2000 Olympian Tasha Schwikert were among the 10 athletes in the trials chosen for the training camp. Three more athletes were added through

### Sports briefs

injury petition, including Chelsea Memmel, a double gold medalist in last year's world championships.

That means there will be 15 athletes attending the selection camp, the same number as in the trials. After losing half of her team in last summer's world championships to injury or illness, Karolyi is taking no chances. She'll put the dozen hopefuls through a pressure-packed two-day competition before she and two others choose the remaining four athletes and three alternates on July 18.

"We left the squad pretty large so we make sure we have the right people to select at the right time," Karolyi said.

**NHRA driver dies after dragster breaks up**  
MADISON, Ill. — Drag racer Darrell Russell died Sunday after his car broke up while traveling about 300 mph and burst into flames during a Top Fuel race at Gateway International Raceway.

Russell had crossed the finish line on the quarter-mile strip and deployed his parachute when his dragster came apart in the second round of eliminations in the NHRA Nationals.

The car rolled to a halt near a guard wall and the fire was quickly put out.

The 35-year-old from Hockley, Texas, was unconscious when cut from the wreckage, immobilized with a brace and placed on a backboard. He was taken by helicopter to the St. Louis University Medical Center, where he was pronounced dead about two hours later.

Russell is the first driver killed in competition in an NHRA national event since Blaine Johnson died in a crash during a qualifying run in the 1996 U.S. Nationals in Indianapolis.

Russell, the 2001 NHRA rookie of the year, had six career Top Fuel victories, including the Pontiac Excitement Nationals two weeks ago in Columbus, Ohio.

### SaberCats Win Arena Bowl

PHOENIX — Mark Grieb set a record with eight touchdown passes, James Roe

caught five to tie three more records and the San Jose SaberCats beat the Arizona Rattlers 69-62 Sunday for their second ArenaBowl title in three years.

After nearly an hour of unrelenting offense, the final minute of the Arena Football League championship turned on defense.

Arizona scored with 31 seconds left to get within 63-62, but coach Danny White opted for a 2-point conversion. Sherrick Bonner rolled left and passed low to Hunkie Cooper, but San Jose's Omar Smith broke up the pass.

Then San Jose guard Chuck Reed took the ensuing onside kick, lumbering 7 yards to score with 30 seconds remaining.

But Dan Frantz missed the point-after, leaving Arizona within seven points.

As time ticked off, Bonner found Orshawa Bryant for three first downs — the last a 15-yard catch setting up the Rattlers on the San Jose 2 with two seconds left. Rashied Davis smothered Hunkie Cooper on Arizona's final play, knocking down Bonner's pass as the clock expired.



RUSTY BRYAN/Stars and Stripes

Former Bitburg High School football coach Rik Carr stands on the track that surrounds the field later renamed in his honor to address participants at last summer's DODDS football camp. Carr is retiring after coaching at the school for 26 years. He won six conference and three European football titles.

# Carr built more than just Bitburg football program

BY RUSTY BRYAN

Stars and Stripes

When Rik Carr moves to Reno, Nev., next month, Bitburg High School's football coach for the past 26 years will be leaving behind a lot more than 88 gridiron victories, six conference championships, three European titles and a football field that will bear his name "until the Germans come in and paint over it."

As a witness to the drawdown of the 1990s that turned Bitburg from a main operating base into a bedroom community for Spangdahlem Air Base, and converted its flight line into a German sports and recreation center, Carr, 56, knows all about the transitory nature of physical legacies.

However, his main bequest — the gifts of innovation, dedication, leadership, sportsmanship and inspiration that many of his former players and colleagues are already following — should last a lot longer.

"For me personally, he's the reason I decided to go into education as well as coaching," said Carter Hollenbeck, who played for Carr in the 1980s and is now Baumholder's football and girls basketball coach. "It was outstanding for me to have a chance to play for him."

It's a sentiment seconded by former Carr colleague Steve Boyer, now coaching in Korea.

"I learned a tremendous amount about football and life from him," Boyd wrote in an e-mail. "He really made me understand what 'caring about kids' really means. I remember the endless hours Rik worked on football and wrestling and how much the kids loved him."

It would have been hard for the players to react any other way,

considering the time and attention Carr lavished on them.

"It was really kind of cool to play for him," Hollenbeck said. "Before the season, we'd all go over to his house and have a cook-out. On Sundays, we'd go over to watch game films. He's the nicest guy you'd ever want to meet."

Hollenbeck added that Carr also affected his coaching philosophy.

"A lot of his special talent dealt with seeing the personnel and deciding how to run an offense and defense based on their capabilities," Hollenbeck said. "A lot of coaches arbitrarily decide on a system and try to run it no matter what."

Hollenbeck recalls talking with Carr immediately after taking the reins at Baumholder.

"I was full of plans and told Coach Carr that I was going to do this and do that," Hollenbeck said. "He just smiled, so I said, 'OK, what would you do?' He explained that at small schools you can't run things like that. You have to adapt to what you have."

Few adapted better than Carr, who successfully went to a risky shotgun offense a few seasons back when his team had no choice but to field a fiercely game but grossly undersized 140-pound center.

"If I had put the quarterback up under center, our center would have gotten killed," Carr explained at the time.

Not content with just building a program at Bitburg, Carr set out to improve all the football programs in Department of Defense Dependents Schools-Europe. His emphasis on teaching touch wings in the 1990s with the revival of the program DODDS-Europe football camp, a way for every football player in the system to have a chance to improve.

"It was the best thing for DODDS," Carr said of taking on the labor-intensive camp, which attracted wholehearted and mostly voluntary support from DODDS coaches, and a Bitburg community and command that filled Carr's many requests for help. With Carr's departure, the camp moves to Würzburg this August.

Carr, who began his coaching career at an inner-city high school in Detroit in 1970, said the drawdown and its impact on the athletic program was the biggest change during his tenure.

He said when he started coaching "it took seven to nine quality athletes to win a championship. With the population decrease, it's down to four or five."

Carr doesn't think he'll miss coaching, "at least until the season starts."

"I won't miss those long trips — all day Saturday and Sunday — and sleeping on hard gym floors," he added.

The best part of it? "The great kids who came by, and also the great friendships I've had with the other coaches," he said.

No coach has been a better friend than Bitburg colleague Deuny Lemmon, whose most recent major achievement has been guiding the Lady Barons to four straight European basketball championships. Contributing to that streak was a legion of well-schooled JV players coached by Carr to a 50-2 record in the past six seasons.

"I hate to see him leave," said Lemmon, who's been a friend and associate of Carr's for 25 years. "It's like going through a divorce."

E-mail: Rusty Bryan at: bryan@mail.estrpes.osd.mil.



AP

Serena Williams reacts after winning a point at the net against Magui Serna during their singles match at Wimbledon on Sunday.

# S. Williams primed for second week

BY JOHN PYE

The Associated Press

WIMBLEDON, England — Serena Williams said her biggest achievement in the first three rounds of Wimbledon was making it to the second week. So far, so good.

With older sister Venus upset in the second round, Serena's third go at defending her Wimbledon title is moving in a new direction.

There's no prospect of an all-Williams final for the first time since 2001, so all the Williams' hopes are riding on Serena. It seemed so sure Sunday, when she was more subdued than usual in a 6-4, 6-0 victory over Magui Serna.

"I made it through with all the rain," the top-seeded Williams said when asked to summarize her week.

Expanding the critique, she said for the first time since returning in March from eight months off the tour after a knee operation, she's finding her rhythm.

"Last year I wasn't feeling really good with my play... really was disappointed in it," she said. "This year, I'm feeling better because I've been through a lot physically, you know."

"And for me to be at this point right now, where I'm really, really, feeling good for the first time, I'm looking at the positives."

Williams hasn't won a major since Wimbledon last year — her fifth title in six consecutive Grand Slam events — and has lost the aura of invincibility.

To reverse that, she's tinkering with her game, backing off the

serve and trying to get to the net more often.

Against Serna, Williams fired 11 aces, had only one double-fault and was 93 percent on first-serve points. She said it's part of her evolution.

"For years my Dad's been telling me, 'Take the pace off. Don't hit them 120 if you can hit it 110,'" she said. "It finally clicked: 'OK, I'm going to hit 110 and just place it.' And it worked every time. I took a lot of pace off and got it in."

With the serving workout, she tried something a bit novel for an avowed baseliner.

She tried a serve-volley, once, and it worked. She also won 10 of 16 points at the net and counteracted Serna's low-bouncing slice shots.

"I started adding the spin and actually playing grass-court tennis instead of clay court or hard court. I was [going] to the net a little bit more. I was pretty excited about it. So I'm getting better each round."

Two rain-delayed women's third-round matches were completed early Monday, with 16-year-old Tatiana Golovin finishing off a 6-3, 2-6, 6-3 win over Emmanuelle Gagliardi to set up a meeting against two-time defending champion Serena Williams.

"Playing Serena is going to be amazing," said the Russian-born Golovin, who plays for France. "It's my second time playing against somebody in the top 10. I'm just really excited."

Italy's Silvia Farina Elia completed a 2-6, 6-4, 7-5 win over Virginia Ruano Pascual, and will face No. 4 Amelie Mauresmo in the round of 16.

# Tennis: Past two champions set for showdown

TENNIS, FROM BACK PAGE

During his current winning streak, Federer has won 53 of 56 sets, including 35 in a row. He has held in 89 consecutive service games at Wimbledon dating back to the 2003 quarterfinals against Schalken. "I have to say every match so far on grass has been quite unbelievable," Federer said. "I've always played great tennis. There's not a match where I remember I've played bad tennis and came through. I always played very good."

Federer, who had dropped only 19 games in his first three matches, faced his toughest test so far against Karlovic. The towering Croat, who upset top-seeded defending champion Hewitt in the first round last year, served 95 aces in his first three matches.

But Federer managed to break him once, in the sixth game of the first set, and outplayed him in both tiebreakers.

"I had a great first set," the Swiss all-court player said. "From then on, I didn't really have too much of a chance against his serve."

Karlovic finished with 14 aces. Federer, meanwhile, lost only 16 points on his own serve. He also had 41 winners—including nine passing shots and six serve returns—and only nine unforced errors. Hewitt, meanwhile, was broken for the first time in the tournament when he lost serve in the third game of the second set, but broke back immediately and went on to take a two-set lead.

Moya, who had beaten Hewitt in five of their previous nine matches, broke for 5-4 in the third set, then saved two break points before closing out the set with a forehand half volley.

After an exchange of breaks in the fourth, Hewitt had a match point at 5-4 but made an error and threw down his racket in disgust. In the tiebreaker, Hewitt went up 6-2, giving him three more match points. Moya saved the first with an overhead but made a forehand return error on the next.



**Defending champion Roger Federer reacts at match point over Croatia's Ivo Karlovic at Wimbledon on Monday. Federer won the match 6-3, 7-6 (3), 7-6 (5) to advance to the quarterfinals.**

Davenport, the 1999 champion, reached the quarterfinals for the seventh time in 11 appearances. She'll next face Spem, who beat Magdalena Maleeva 6-4, 6-4. Spem upset Venus Williams, a former two-time champion, in the second round last year.

Sharapova advanced to her second consecutive Grand Slam quarterfinal by beating 31-year-old American Amy Frazier 6-4, 7-5.

Frazier, playing in her 16th Wimbledon, squandered leads in both sets and undermined her chances with 12 double faults.

Sharapova next plays Sugiyama, who beat Thailand's Tamarine Tanasugarn, 6-3, 7-5 to become the first Asian quarterfinalist at Wimbledon since Indonesia's Yayuk Basuki in 1997.

# Scott holds on, wins Booz Allen

The Associated Press

POTOMAC, Md. — An Australian with Greg Norman's coach and Norman's former caddy might have felt an extra dose of nerves taking a six-stroke lead into the final round of a tournament.

No worries, mate. Well, maybe a few.

After having his lead cut to two on the back nine, Adam Scott held off Charles Howell III for a four-shot victory Sunday at the Booz Allen Classic.

Howell, trailing by seven shots after six holes, made a charge with five straight birdies on the back nine, but Scott recovered.

## Golf roundup

ered with back-to-back birdies and saved par with a tough 11-foot putt at the 16th to avoid tying Norman and three others for the biggest final-day collapse in PGA Tour history.

Scott closed with a 68 for a 21-under-par 263 total, tying the tournament and TPC at Avenel course record set by Billy Andrade and Jeff Sluman in 1991, when Andrade won in a playoff. Scott also broke the 36-hole Avenel record on Friday and tied the 54-hole mark on Saturday.

Howell, who broke the 18-hole record with a 61 on Thursday, finally faded when he three-putted the 17th and finished a 65 for a 267 total. Defending champion Rory Sabbatini shot a 66 to finish third with a 269, six strokes back. Olin Browne, six behind and in second place going into the round, finished tied for seventh after shooting a 72.

It is the third PGA Tour victory and seventh worldwide win for Scott, who won the Players Championship in March.

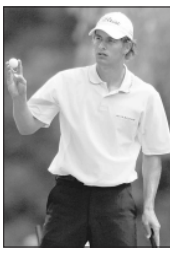
Scott led Howell by seven after making a third straight birdie at the fifth hole, but the gap started to narrow when Scott overshot the green at the par-3 ninth and made bogey.

Howell then birdied Nos. 11-15 with putts of 9, 20, 13, 11 and 18 feet. Meanwhile, Scott put his tee shot at the edge of the cart path to the right of the fairway at the par-5 13th, one of the easiest holes on the course. After three failed drives, Scott placed the ball on a slope and made a nice shot to the green—but then he three-putted for par.

## Tseng stuns Wie in Women's Publix

WILLIAMSBURG, Va. — Ya-Ni Tseng of Taiwan made a 12-foot birdie putt on the 36th hole Sunday, capping a dramatic comeback against Michelle Wie and winning the U.S. Women's Amateur Public Links Championship.

Wie, the 14-year-old defending champion, led 4-up early in the match and 1-up heading to the 34th tee. But she missed a 6-foot putt, allowing Tseng to pull even, and left a long putt on the last hole on the edge.



**Adam Scott of Australia, above, survived a charge by Charles Howell III to win the Booz Allen Classic at TPC at Avenel in Potomac, Md., on Sunday.**

Tseng, 15, then rolled hers in to complete the stunning upset.

While Tseng sought out and hugged her American host, Ernie Huang of San Diego, Wie wept and sought comfort in an embrace from her mother, a title she was favored to win last when she couldn't close it out.

"Nothing really worked out for me today from the start to the end," Wie said, her eyes swelling with tears. "I just played terribly. I made a lot of bogeys and gave a lot of strokes away."

## Saiki gets first LPGA Tour win

PITTSBURGH, N.Y. — Kim Saiki won for the first time in her 12 years on the LPGA Tour, shooting a 1-under 71 Sunday and overtaking Rosie Jones by four strokes at the Rochester LPGA.

Saiki, 38, finished 14-under 274 at the tree-lined Locust Hill course. In a thrilling final round, Jones went ahead three times before a decisive swing at the par-4 14th when she three-putted from 18 feet for a double-bogey while Saiki curled in a 5-footer for birdie.

Jones shot a 74 to drop back into tie for the second with Mi Hyun Kim (72) of South Korea, a runner-up here in 2002 who picked up her 10th top-10 finish this year.

Amnika Sorenstam managed only a 73 on Sunday and fell into a tie for seventh, along with Candie Kung (74).

## Stadler wins Bank of America

CONCORD, Mass. — Craig Stadler shot an 8-under 64 to win the Bank of America Championship on Sunday, giving him a Champions Tour victory on the same day his son Kevin won on the minor league Nationwide Tour.

Stadler was getting updates on Kevin's round throughout the day.

After sinking a birdie on the 18th hole to finish at 15-under 201, Craig Stadler went into the scorer's trailer and watched as Kevin won the Lake Erie Charity Classic on the fourth playoff hole.

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# Windsor helps Titans complete comeback

## Fullerton sweeps Texas for CWS title

BY ERIC OLSON

The Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — After struggling at the start of the season, Cal State Fullerton ended its championship slide.

Jason Windsor pitched a five-hitter, Kurt Suzuki's RBI single capped off a three-run seventh inning and Cal State Fullerton won the College World Series with a 3-2 victory over Texas on Sunday.

The Titans (47-22) won the best-of-three championship series 2-0 — a surprising end to a season they started 15-16. The 22 losses are the most by a national champion since Stanford had 23 in 1988.

"I'm in shock. I'm in awe," Fullerton coach George Horton said. "These guys I've been honored to coach have kept surprising me and surprising me and surprising me. This is the greatest turnaround in Cal State Fullerton history."

Fullerton also won national titles in 1979, 1984 and 1995 — all under current Texas coach Augie Garrido.

"It makes it even more special to accomplish this competing against your mentor and against someone who laid such a strong foundation for Cal State Fullerton," Horton said.

The Longhorns (58-15), the top seed in the field, had moved through the tournament with a string of lopsided victories that made them the prohibitive favorite against Cal State Fullerton.

"It appeared by the way we were playing that we were the best team and would win this tournament, which makes it even harder for the players to understand or accept," Garrido said. "We did our best. They did better."

Windsor (13-3) was strong in throwing his second complete game of the CWS. He struck out 10 and walked one.

Windsor shut out South Carolina on a three-hitter in the Titans' opener, and he pitched three innings of shutout relief Thursday in another win over the Gamecocks.

In 21 innings, Windsor gave up 11 hits and two runs, struck out 29 and was named the tournament's Most Outstanding Player.

"It hasn't sunk in yet," Windsor said of his performances. "It will take a few days and some relaxation. I look at it on paper and it looks great and sometimes I don't believe it's me."

Windsor, a senior right-hander, finished the season with 12 straight wins and three complete games after losing four of his first five starts.

"His numbers are mind-boggling," Horton said. "You can't do it any better than that. The thing I was worried about was whether we would go to the well too many times using Jason."

Garrido said Fullerton did a good job of capitalizing on its opportunities in the seventh inning.

Suzuki lined a two-out single into left field, scoring Ronnie Prettyman from second for the go-ahead run. Suzuki had been 2-for-20 in the College World Series before his big hit.

"I just didn't press," Suzuki said. "Every time I got out, Coach Horton stated positively. I came up that last at-bat and said I want to be the man."

Fullerton, held to five hits in the first six innings, broke through after Texas starter Sam LeCure was relieved by Buck Cody (1-2) with the Longhorns leading 2-0.



Cal State Fullerton's Kurt Suzuki, left, Mark Carroll, center, and Nolan Brunnyneck celebrate their 3-2 win over Texas on Sunday to win the College World Series best-of-three final.

Pinch-hitter Brett Pill tripled in the seventh on Cody's first pitch, scoring Bobby Andrews to cut Texas' lead to 2-1.

"My teammates told me he throws a lot of fastballs in, and that's what he gave me," Pill said. "I was lucky enough to get a piece of it."

A wild pitch by Cody scored pinch-runner Brandon Tripp with the tying run.

Prettyman reached on a throwing error by Texas shortstop Michael Hollimon, and later scored from second on Suzuki's hit off J. Brent Cox.

LeCure turned in a solid effort, holding the Titans to five hits and one run. He struck out five and walked none.

LeCure stayed in the game after getting hit on the right ankle by a hard comeback-

er by Justin Turner in the fifth inning. The ball ricocheted to third baseman David Maroul, who threw out Turner to end the inning. LeCure hopped back to the dugout, and a few minutes later was throwing in the bullpen.

"I thought that was too minor a thing to take me out of the game and hurt the team's chances," LeCure said. "I felt I would be able to continue to be successful. In the seventh inning, it was getting to me. It was tightening up."

But after LeCure left in the seventh, the Texas bullpen couldn't hold the lead and blew its third save opportunity of the Series.

Texas took a 2-0 lead against Windsor, ending his scoreless innings streak end at 27½ innings.

# Fear of a work stoppage keeps NHL draft-day deals to minimum

BY MARGARET LILLARD

The Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — Trades were a rarity during this weekend's NHL draft, with labor uncertainty making teams reluctant to take on large contracts.

"Our decisions are a little bit tougher when you're trying to make them with the unknown," said Carolina Hurricanes General Manager Jim Rutherford, whose team hosted the event at the RBC Center. "We saw some trades here in the last two days that were probably a little bit different than we've seen in the past, some very good players going for a mid-round draft pick."

This year only six moves were made, with the two biggest involving the rebuilding Ottawa Senators. The team unveiled a season-to-be restricted free agent Radek to a three-team deal on Saturday, then sent top goallender Patrick Lalime to St. Louis on Sunday for a conditional fourth-round pick.

The Los Angeles Kings initially took Bonk for a third-round pick,

then immediately shipped him and backup goalie Cristobal Huet to the Canadiens for goaltender Mathieu Garon and Montreal's third-round pick.

The trade of Lalime opens up the Senators' roster for Detroit goalie Dominik Hasek, who can be courted when he becomes a free agent next week.

Ottawa General Manager John Muckler said the deals were good, considering the circumstances.

"If we waited until July 1 and didn't qualify them, we would have got nothing," he said. "I think we did the smart thing this weekend and cleared some money off our payroll that can be used for other players."

Senators coach Bryan Murray noted, however, that what Ottawa got in return showed the tenor of the times.

"Ordinarily, with a player like [Bonk], you'd like to get something in the first round," he said. "But at the end of the day, you take what you can get."

The draft, which ended Sunday, made history, with Alex-

ander Ovechkin and Evgeni Malkin becoming the first Russian players to go with the top two picks.

Canada had 125 players chosen, the most of any country. "There's no risk when any of the players may step onto NHL ice. The league's collective bargaining agreement with its players expires Sept. 15, and, with no agreement near, a lockout is a distinct possibility."

The impending stoppage left most teams reluctant to make trades that would saddle them with big contracts, which would strangle their payroll if the league wins its fight to include salary restrictions in the new collective bargaining agreement.

Most have tried over the past season or two to position themselves financially so that they could handle any roster needs even without a labor deal in place.

"I'll go forward with business as usual," Los Angeles General Manager Dave Taylor said. "We still have some holes in our lineup so we hope to fill them after July 1 with the free agent market."

# Shaq doesn't back off demand to be traded

BY CHRIS SHERIDAN

The Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — Shaquille O'Neal reiterated his desire Sunday to be traded, though he wouldn't specify a preferred destination other than to say: "Every one knows."

"I can't get into that," O'Neal said when asked he would prefer a wish list of teams he would prefer to join.

O'Neal, who demanded a trade shortly after the Los Angeles Lakers lost in the NBA Finals to the Detroit Pistons, has put his house near Beverly Hills on the market for \$7.5 million. The Lakers are known to have been fielding offers from other teams for the 7-foot-1 center, though General Manager Mitch Kupchak has said he is holding out hope that O'Neal will change his mind.

O'Neal's representatives have already met with Kupchak to express their client's wishes.

"What I said in L.A., I wasn't [messing] around," O'Neal said after attending his first meeting as an officer of the players' union. Perry Rogers, O'Neal's agent,

did not return a phone call seeking comment.

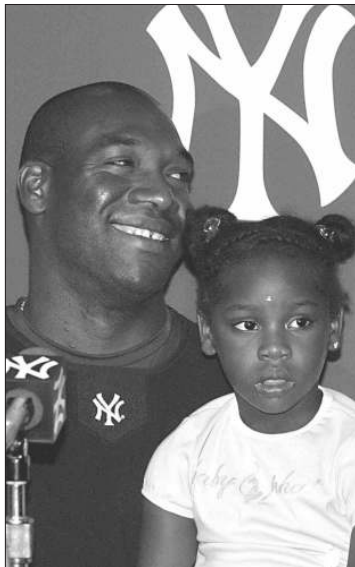
O'Neal, who was chosen in February to replace Alonzo Mourning as a vice president on the union's executive council, took part in a 2½-hour meeting to review an agenda centered primarily on collective bargaining issues.

The NBA's labor agreement with the union expires after the 2004-05 season. The sides have held two negotiating sessions in the past few months, the league asking for cost control safeguards including a four-year maximum length for player contracts.

The union is seeking a reduction or elimination in the so-called escrow tax, which calls for 10 percent of their paychecks to be withheld if the percentage of revenues devoted to player salaries eclipses a preset figure.

"Having him on the board, a guy that has the presence that he has around the league, and who has been so involved with business issues, it's a good additive to our executive board and brings great influence to the other guys in the league," union president Michael Curry said.





**Jose Contreras is all smiles as he answers questions Sunday after pitching the New York Yankees to an 8-1 victory over the New York Mets. It was Contreras' first game since his family defected from Cuba to join him. Contreras' 3-year-old daughter, Naylenis, sits on his lap.**

# Contreras makes victory over Mets a family affair

BY RONALD BLUM  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Jose Contreras dreamed of such moments.

First he pitched six shutout innings against one of his team's biggest rivals, then got to hug and kiss his family after they watched him pitch in the major leagues for the first time.

Making his first start since his wife and children defected from Cuba last week, Contreras struck out a career-high 10, leading the New York Yankees to an 8-1 victory over the Mets on Sunday in the opener of a day-night doubleheader sweep.

"I thought my dad was going to win," 11-year-old Naylenis Contreras said.

During a news conference between the first game and the Yankees' 11-6 victory at night, Contreras was accompanied by wife Miriam and their two daughters. While Naylenis sat on her mother's lap, the pitcher sat next to them holding 3-year-old Naylenis, repeatedly kissing her head and squeezing her after she nodded off and fell asleep.

He dedicated his victory to his family and to "the people of Cuba who support me."

"During the game, I didn't think about my family," he said through a translator. "I concentrated on getting one out after another. I knew after the game my family would be here."

*"As the game progressed and Jose was striking batters out, I was able to relax a little bit."*

**Miriam Contreras**

Wife of Yankees pitcher

And that presence, he said, "gave me more motivation."

Contreras stifled the Mets on two hits until cramped in his forearm and thumb forced him into three pitches into the seventh. He frustrated the Mets so much that Ty Wigginton broke his bat in half after he struck out in the third inning.

Signed to a \$32 million, four-year contract after defecting from Cuba in October 2002, Contreras (5-3) has been maddeningly inconsistent. He often talked of how much he missed his family and Yankees manager Joe Torre said that his family situation might have contributed to his trouble adjusting.

Contreras' family left Cuba on a 31-foot boat a week earlier and were captured by U.S. Border Pa-

trol agents on Big Pine Key, Fla., last Monday. Contreras was reunited with them a day later in Miami Beach, and they looked on from a luxury suite in Yum! Stadium on a sunny summer afternoon. His youngest daughter ate cotton candy.

"It tasted great," she said, also through a translator.

He allowed a single to Jose Reyes, his first batter, who promptly was caught stealing by catcher John Flaherty. Contreras then retired 10 in a row — including four straight on strikeouts.

Mike Cameron got the Mets' second hit, a leadoff single in the fifth, but he, too, was thrown out at second.

Contreras then walked the bases loaded — the four walks tied his career high — but he got out of trouble when Kaz Matsui flied out on a 3-2 pitch.

"I was very tense," Miriam Contreras said. "As the game progressed and Jose was striking batters out, I was able to relax a little bit."

Contreras said the cram was not serious and came from throwing forkballs.

Shortstop Derek Jeter, who had the fourth multihome run game of his career, wasn't concerned at all about Contreras' results.

"To be honest with you, I don't care how he pitched," Jeter said. "I'm just happy for him. He's got a big smile on his face."

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## Stars and Stripes Messages of Support

★ W. Benham, We miss you very much. Your children are extremely proud of you. I know our family will be together again soon. Your son is walking short distances and is getting huge will send pictures soon. I Love You, Benham.

★ Hey Boogie Boy (Scott Jr.), Just to let you know we love you and miss you. What a joy to spend your 22nd birthday. Can't wait to see you and give you a big hug. Love, Mom & Dennis

★ I want to let our men and women over in the Persian Gulf know how very much I admire their bravery and commitment to our country. Thank you, thank you, thank you and God speed. Lainey White

★ This message is for J. Hilderbrand, We are praying for you. You are hearts hold you tight, know that we are thinking of you all of the time! Hope to have you home soon! Love, Elaine, Mark, Jeff and Jackie

★ Hi honey, just wanted to let you know I was thinking about you. Kesh & I miss you very much and can't wait to see you again. Love you sweetie, Linda

BY LISA OLSON  
New York Daily News

NEW YORK — Even the most hardened of souls had to smile. Little Naylenis, her mouth still sticky with cotton candy, yawned loudly, gave her daddy a peck on the cheek and nuzzled in for an afternoon nap. Her forehead was adorned with the sort of fake jewels American girls love. She wore a hot pink skirt, just like her sister, and when Jose Contreras gently fixed her ponytail and whispered don't be afraid of the cameras, Naylenis practically melted in his lap.

Her daddy's lap. Nothing in her life will ever be more important.

Contreras pitched marvelously Sunday. He had supreme confidence in his split-finger, deftly eased out of tight spots, laughed often and even stole a few glances at the Stadium luxury suite, where 3-year-old Naylenis and Naylan, 11, and their mother Miriam witnessed their first baseball game on American soil. They were treated like royal princesses. Goons threatened to arrest anyone who crossed the line, or dared ask how it was they were able to escape Cuba. Wel-

## Commentary

come to America, and pass the hot dogs.

"I now know the decision I made two years ago was the right one," Contreras said after the Yankees beat the Mets 8-1 in the first of a day-night doubleheader. His wife and daughters snuggled closely. Naylenis so exhausted she could not stay awake, Naylan too adorable for words, Miriam looking like a woman who had just risked everything — her life, her children's lives — in order to be reunited with the husband she had not seen in 21 months, since he sneaked away from Cuba's national team and signed with the Yankees for \$32 million.

The family's defection was as much a matter of discussion in the visitors' clubhouse as Contreras' dominance.

"You hear so much criticism of our country," said Mike Piazza. "It's funny how so many people want to keep coming here."

Last week alone, in four incidents, 34 Cuban migrants were intercepted by the U.S. Coast Guard at sea and returned to the Caribbean island. Lucky for the

Contrerases the Coast Guard on their speedboat, the Coast Guard could not catch them during a three-hour chase last Sunday night. You wonder what that says about our crack homeland security.

According to people close to Miriam, she feared the pitfalls and perks of a big league player's life would wreck their marriage. She heard about the voracious groupies and fretted she might lose Jose to another woman. They were married when he was 16, she a year younger, and the five-year wait for permission to leave their Communist homeland was unbearable. Five times she and the girls attempted to defect, five times they were caught and detained, until last Sunday night, when a red smugger's boat mysteriously appeared on Guanabo Beach in Havana and whisked them away to the United States.

"From the first time I stepped foot in this country," Miriam Contreras said, "I prayed to God to help Jose have a good outing." Contreras left to a standing ovation from some 37,000, including two little girls in a luxury suite who were jonesing on a sugar ass. You don't have to be a Yankees fan to appreciate its sweetness.

# Cotton candy, a nap in daddy's lap and don't fear the cameras



# White Sox relish series win, trade

## Cubs are beaten in rubber game; Garcia added to bolster rotation

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — In one energizing day, the Chicago White Sox won the Windy City series and added All-Star pitcher Freddy Garcia to their rotation.

Now they're focusing on the AL Central title.

The White Sox beat Greg Maddux and the visiting Cubs 9-4 Sunday behind Esteban Loaiza, who overcame Sammy Sosa's two home runs.

Soon after the game ended, Garcia was acquired in a trade with Seattle for promising young catcher Miguel Olivo and two prospects.

It's a big boost for the White Sox, who trail first-place Minnesota by one game.

"We have an opportunity to challenge for the division in a better way," general manager Ken Williams said.

The White Sox took two of three from the Cubs in the first seven games of the season. The teams meet again next weekend at Wrigley Field.

"I think everything definitely gives a little more during these games because it's a playoff atmosphere," said White Sox first baseman Paul Konerko, who had nine RBIs in the series. "It's a lot of fun and it's grueling."

It was an emotional day for Olivo, who homered off Maddux but was too upset to talk about the trade.

The White Sox also gave up top prospect Jeremy Reed and minor league infielder Michael Morse. Along with Garcia, Chicago received catcher Ben Davis and cash from the Mariners.

"That's a big move for us. He is a quality starting pitcher. He is one of the best out there," Konerko said.

Garcia, who can become a free agent after this season, has pitched better than his record indicates. He was 4-7 but with a 3.20 ERA in 15 starts for last-place Seattle. The two-time All-Star is 76-50 in a six-year career with a 3.89 ERA.

"It's hard for me to leave," the right-hander said. "I do love playing here."

Now he will pitch for White Sox manager Ozzie Guillen, one of his best friends.

"You've got to be a professional. Everybody knows he's my friend, but I want to do business," Garcia said. "I'll go there and pitch the way I can pitch."

The 27-year-old Garcia was one of the top pitchers available on the trade market. He should help solidify a rotation that already includes Loaiza, who won 21 games last season, and Mark Buehrle.

"There is a lot of pressure on Coop (pitching coach Don Cooper) and myself. We have to win," Guillen said.

Garcia is scheduled to make his first start for Chicago on Wednesday night at Minnesota.

Time Perez also homered for the White Sox and Konerko had three RBIs.

Sosa homered in his first two at-bats against Loaiza (8-3), giving him 14 for the season and 551 for his career.

Maddux (6-6) lasted just four-plus innings, giving up 11 hits and nine runs, seven earned.

**Red Sox 12, Phillies 3:** Curt Schilling beat his former team for his 10th win, and David Ortiz homered and drove in three runs to lead the host Red Sox, who took two of three from the Phillies.

Schilling (10-4), who pitched for the Phillies from 1992 to 2000, gave up three runs and eight hits and struck out seven in six innings.



Kansas City's Ken Harvey grimaces after being hit by a pitch from St. Louis' Jason Marquis in the first inning of Sunday's game at Kansas City, Mo. Harvey went to first but later left the game. St. Louis won 10-3.

**Marlins 11, Devil Rays 4:** Carl Pavano (9-2) allowed one run and five hits in seven innings to earn his career-high sixth straight win and stop the host Devil Rays' 13-game interleague win streak.

The Devil Rays, whose interleague winning streak tied a major league record, lost for just the second time in 17 games, falling back to .500 (36-36).

**Indians 5, Rockies 3:** Matt Lawton doubled home two runs in the seventh off Jason Jennings (6-7), scoring Casey Blake and Ronnie Belliard to break a 2-2 tie. Host Cleveland moved back to .500 with its 14th win in 22 games.

**Tigers 9, Diamondbacks 5:** Carlos Pena's grand slam in the bottom of the ninth sent the Tigers to their fourth straight win and the Diamondbacks to a franchise-record ninth loss in a row.

The Tigers finished a three-game sweep.

**Brewers 7, Twins 3:** Doug

Davis won his fourth straight start and Lyle Overbay homered for visiting Milwaukee. Davis (8-5) became the first Brewers left-hander — and fifth Milwaukee pitcher overall — to post five wins in June.

**Cardinals 10, Royals 3:** Mike Matheny had four RBIs, and Scott Rolen and Edgar Renteria each had three hits and scored three runs, leading the Cardinals to their first sweep in Kansas City.

**Giants 5, Athletics 2:** Barry Bonds hit his first home run in 13 games — a span of 32 at-bats — and Marquis Grissom also homered in visiting San Francisco's 12th victory in 14 games.

Bonds hit an 0-1 pitch from Mark Redman (6-4) into the seats in right-center for his 19th homer — and No. 677 of his career.

**Braves 8, Orioles 7:** J.D. Drew homered in a seven-run eighth and Atlanta overcame a 7-0 defi-

cit, its biggest comeback of the season. John Smoltz got four outs for his 13th save.

**Dodgers 10, Angels 5:** Adrian Beltré hit two homers and drove in a season-high five runs, and the host Dodgers snapped a six-game losing streak.

**Expos 9, Blue Jays 4:** Tony Batista homered and drove in five runs and Brad Wilkerson also hit a homer to help visiting Montreal salvage the last game of the three-game series.

**Padres 5, Mariners 1:** Jeff Cirillo hit a three-run homer against his former team and Adam Eaton (4-7) pitched into the seventh for visiting San Diego.

**Pirates 14, Reds 4:** Jason Bay hit a three-run homer and had four RBIs and Josh Fogg (5-6) allowed two runs in six innings to help send the Reds to their third loss in 11 home series.

Adam Dunn homered twice for the Reds.

# Beltran trade pays off at bat and in field as Astros top Texas

BY STEPHEN HAWKINS

The Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — Carlos Beltran leaped with his glove extended over the top of the wall, then dropped to the ground in a sitting position.

Even he wasn't sure he had made the catch until he looked into his glove.

Beltran's home run-robbing catch in the first inning proved to be decisive, and the newly acquired outfielder scored the game's lone run as the Houston Astros won 1-0 Sunday to end the Texas Rangers' eight-game winning streak.

"When he came down and

didn't show it right away, I thought it got over," said Roy Oswalt, who struck out nine while pitching eight shutout innings. "That saved the whole game right there."

Texas leadoff hitter Michael Young was already trotting fourth and third when Ed Montague had signaled a home run. Then, Beltran got up and pulled the ball from his glove.

"When I jumped, I saw the ball hit my glove, but when I went down and opened my glove, I was like, 'Wow, I got this one,'" Beltran said. "I was kind of shocked and surprised."

It was the Rangers' first 1-0

loss at home since June 23, 1997, against Anaheim.

"That's impressive pitching on both sides," Texas manager Buck Showalter said. "It goes back to one thing: Beltran's catch."

Beltran was acquired from Kansas City in a three-way trade last Thursday. The Astros sent closer Octavio Dotel to Oakland as part of the deal.

Oswalt (6-6), who didn't walk a batter, overcame extra-base hits in three consecutive innings. He threw 74 of 109 pitches for strikes.

Brad Lidge, who took over as the closer, pitched a perfect ninth for his fourth save in six chances — completing the Astros' seventh

shutout. It was Lidge's second straight save since Dotel left.

Ryan Drees (4-5) threw his second complete game for the Rangers, allowing six hits over nine innings and striking out four. He had been 4-0 at home, where he has a 2.03 ERA in his eight games.

"It stinks, but that's the game," Drees said. "It was a game that could very easily have been 0-0 in the ninth."

Houston got its lone run after loading the bases with no outs in the second as Beltran and Lance Berkman singled, and Mike Lamb walked. Beltran scored when Morgan Ensberg grounded into a double play before Jose Vizcaino grounded out.

Beltran was 1-for-3, extending his hitting streak to 12 games. He was 4-for-11 in his first three games with the Astros.

After Alfonso Soriano's two-out single in the first, Oswalt retired 12 in a row, seven on strikeouts.

"I got a few guys to chase the fastball out of the zone and got a few guys swinging at curveballs in the dirt," Oswalt said. "The whole gameplan was to keep the ball out of the middle of the plate, because they are so aggressive."

Eric Young tripled with two runs in the fifth, and Rod Barajas and Brad Fuller had leadoff doubles the next two innings for Texas. But Oswalt wriggled out of trouble each time.

## SPORTS



Potential lockout  
prompts few deals during  
NHL draft, Page 28

## Top seeds extend streaks

No. 1 Federer,  
No. 2 Roddick  
into quarters  
at Wimbledon

BY STEPHEN WILSON  
The Associated Press

WIMBLEDON, England — Defending champion Roger Federer extended his grass-court winning streak to 21 matches Monday, setting up a showdown with 2002 winner Lleyton Hewitt in the Wimbledon quarterfinals.

In a match featuring only one break of serve, Federer beat 6-foot-10 Ivo Karlovic of Croatia — the tallest player in the game — 6-3, 7-6 (3), 7-6 (5). Federer hasn't been broken or dropped a set all tournament.

Hewitt lost his first set of the championships but overcame ninth-seeded Carlos Moya 6-4, 6-2, 4-6, 7-6 (3).

"I believe I can beat him," Hewitt said of Federer. "It's going to be an extremely tough match. He's the best player out there at the moment. He's not No. 1 for nothing."

Second-ranked Andy Roddick, meanwhile, continued his own run to the quarters without the loss of a set, defeating unseeded Alexander Popp, 7-5, 6-4, 6-4.

Roddick needed five match points, finally closing it out with a forehand passing shot. He raised his arms, tipped his cap and saluted the Court 1 crowd. Roddick had 14 break points, converting four. Popp — a two-time quarterfinalist here — broke Roddick twice.

Sebastian Grosjean was the first player to make the men's quarterfinals, beating Robby Ginepri 6-2, 6-2, 7-6 (4). The Frenchman, who reached the semis here last year, hasn't dropped a set in four matches.

Jieng Schalken reached the final eight for the third straight year, beating Vince Spadea 6-2, 7-5, 3-6, 6-2. Mario Ancic, a 20-year-old Croat, made the quarters when Xavier Malisse quit with a lower back problem while trailing 7-5, 3-1.

Also advancing was Florian Mayer, who continued his improbable run in his first Wimbledon by beating Sweden's Joachim Johansson 6-3, 6-7, (5), 7-6 (5), 6-4. Mayer, a 20-year-old German ranked No. 66, had played — and



Andy Roddick plays a return to Germany's Alexander Popp on Monday at Wimbledon. Roddick has yet to lose a set in the tournament, and advanced to the quarterfinals with a 7-5, 6-4, 6-4 victory.

lost — one grass-court match before the tournament.

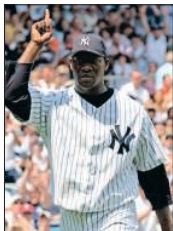
The quarterfinal matchups: Federer-Hewitt, Mayer-Grosjean, Roddick-Schalken, and Ancic against Tim Henman or Mark

Philippoussis.

In women's play, former champion Lindsay Davenport reached the quarterfinals with a 6-4, 6-4 win over Vera Zvonareva. Also advancing were two of the game's

most promising teenagers — 17-year-old Maria Sharapova and 19-year-old Karolina Sprem — and Japan's Ai Sugiyama.

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Contreras wins  
first start  
following  
family's defection

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Fullerton stuns  
Texas to win  
College World  
Series

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Gordon ends  
road course slump  
with Sonoma win

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## Coach Carr leaves behind legacy at Bitburg Page 26